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see page 131.

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Collector's edition

TOP 50 ROOMS



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A DREAMY
HINTERLAND
GARDEN



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HOW TO
prep your
property
for sale

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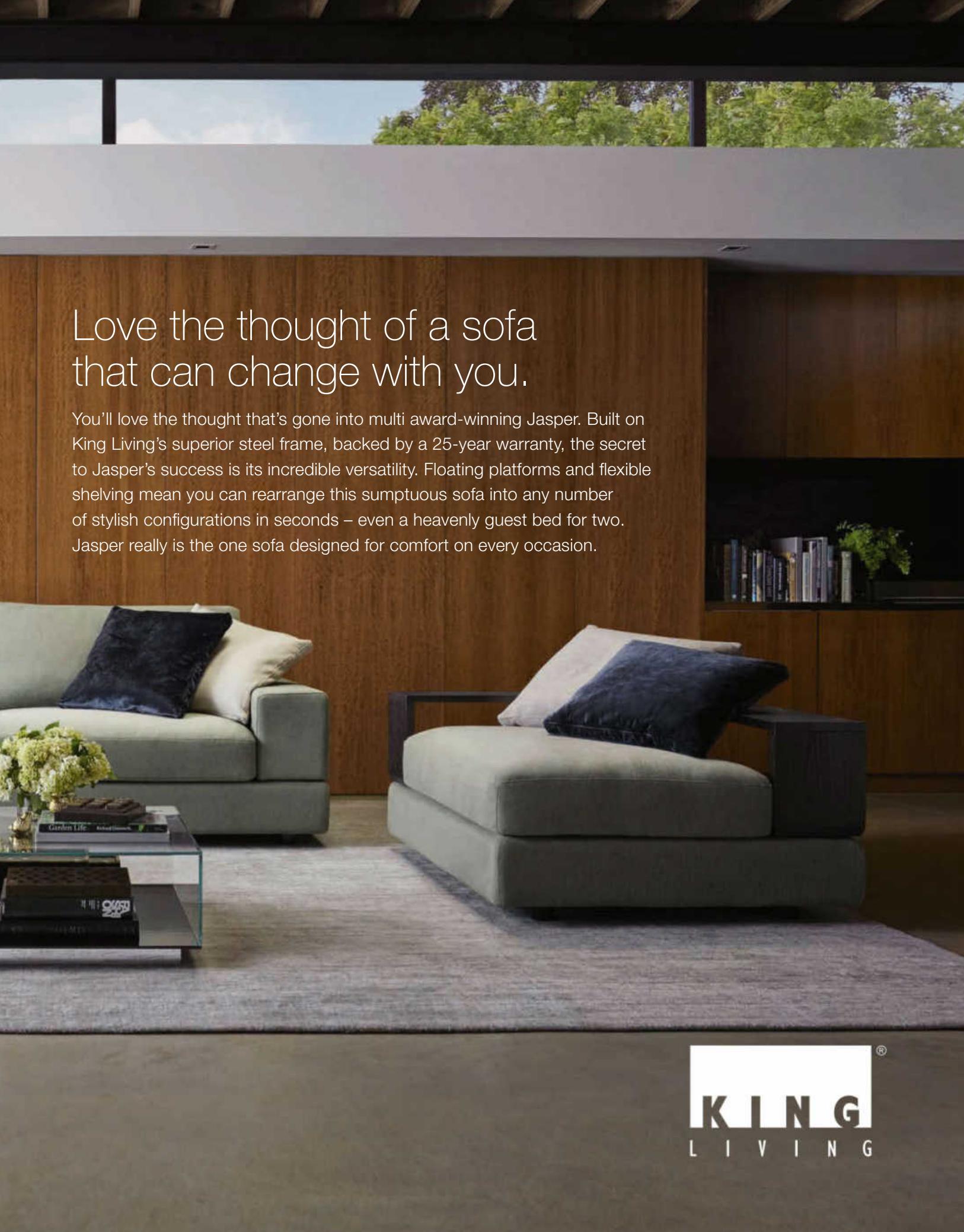


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DECORATING & DESIGN

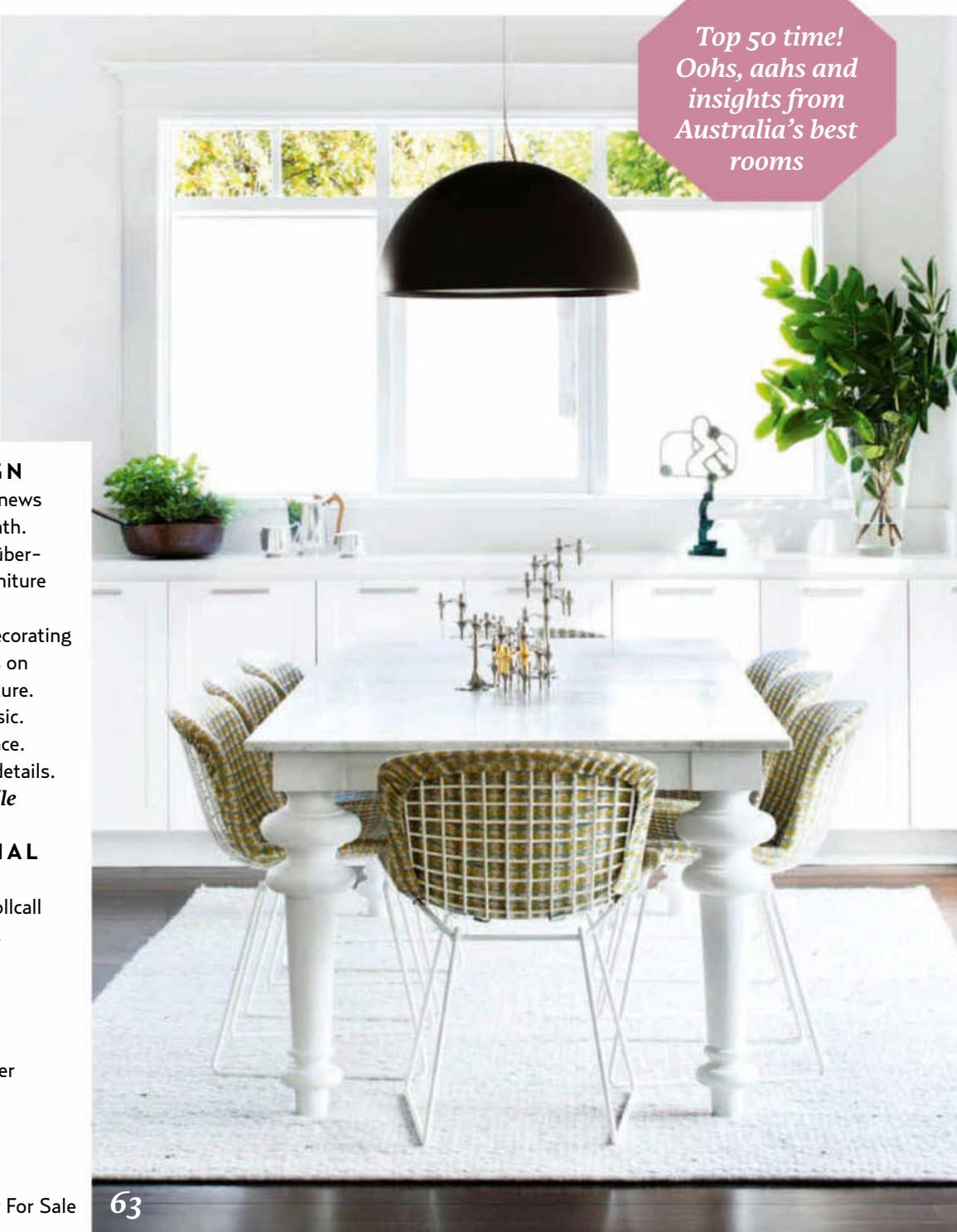
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OCTOBER

TOP 50 ROOMS



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DECORATE NOW

We kick off with a pretty, elegant trans-seasonal decorating story by interiors editor Kate Nixon, who left no fabric unturned in her hunt for the season's key soft furnishings and furniture pieces.

Next up is the Top 50 Rooms feature, now in its 17th year. While we regularly include work from the industry's best design talent in our pages, this annual feature identifies current trends and a chance to get inside the heads of designers, learning much along the way.

The Top 50 showcase is beautiful and thought-provoking, with many identifiable themes running through the rooms – not least the elegant sweeps of curtains and knockout lighting design. We'll unveil the category winners and room of the year prize next issue. With a trip for two to January's Maison & Objet interiors fair on offer, there's plenty at stake!

As usual *H&G* readers will have their say too. So once you're through browsing don't forget to vote for your favourite Top 50 room. There's a smart sofa, ottoman and cushion collection to win, courtesy of Warwick Fabrics, second-generation Australian fabric house and *H&G*'s key Top 50 partner. And don't miss your chance to treat your home to a spring paint makeover with Haymes Paint – another wonderful local company, celebrating its 80th birthday this year.

Enjoy! I can't wait to see your Reader's Choice votes come in.

Lisa

TOP
50
ROOMS

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CONTRIBUTORS



HETTY McKINNON

Cook and author

Hetty elevates the humble salad from side dish to flavour-packed main event in our recipes on page 200, inspired by seasonal produce and "what I see, smell and experience in the world around me". A native of Sydney, Hetty has taken her "salad obsession" to New York, where she now feeds fellow vegie lovers in Brooklyn.



ALAANA COBON

Houses editor

As chief room scout and lead wrangler of our annual Top 50 Rooms feature, Alaana has smiled her way through the editing process.

"It's uplifting to be surrounded by creative, envelope-pushing designs," she says. Her advice to readers delving into the feature? "Take a few moments to really look at each space and clever details will reveal themselves."

YOUR H&G

Recently I moved from sunny Queensland to Tasmania to be close to my daughter. Early this morning she called me to say, "Get up, Mum. It's snowing!" I'm told this is a rare event in Hobart. It was so exciting to feel the soft flakes falling on the palm of my hand, then drive around with my husband and dog to take in the wondrous white sights. After stopping at the local bakery on the way home, I thought I couldn't wish for more... until I found your September issue in my letterbox. With a blazing fire, a bakery treat and time to relax with a fantastic magazine, life is sweet. Barbara Briggs, Hobart, Tasmania

High school reunion

I look forward to each issue of *H&G* for great ideas I can use in my home, but this month you went one step beyond: you found my long-lost best friend from high school! When I saw the article on Kim Hamilton and her cactus business in your September issue, I had a smile from ear to ear. After more than 30 years, we are now in contact again. Thank you.

Rita Reece, Forster, NSW

Garden of delights

I always delight in the personal stories dotted throughout *H&G*, but the feature on Jessie Vonk's garden (September) really struck a chord. Jessie's personal history, her sense of humour and her admission that she's "not really a gardener" intrigued me, but what impressed me most was the way she has woven her personality and natural

talents into a unique, vibrant and thought-provoking Australian garden.

Davina Abela, Kiama, NSW

A fresh spin

The laundries feature (August) proved just how stylish these utilitarian rooms can be. Hanging rails, laundry chutes and bench cut-outs for hanging towels are some of the smart solutions that I'm going to incorporate into the new laundry space I'm planning. Thanks for yet another issue brimming with ideas.

Ros Bailey, Chelmer, Queensland

Hit the pot

I went potty for How To Shop For Pots & Planters (September). It's so easy to fall for an 'on trend' piece and totally miss the mark, but armed with Richard Unsworth's advice I can go to my garden centre with confidence.

Helen Richards, Quinn Rocks, WA

WRITE IN TO WIN

The author of every letter published receives \$50. Our favourite also wins a great prize. This month, Barbara Briggs wins a set of Zakkia and Marble Basics wares from The Depot & Co, valued at \$334; thedepotandco.com.au. Email letters to h&g@bauer-media.com.au with your full name and address or post to Your *H&G*, PO Box 4088, Sydney, NSW 1028.



FLOWER OF THE MONTH

IXIA

This lovely bulb flower is also known as wand flower, corn lily or African cornflower.

Colours Whites and creams to pale blue, bright pink, purple, red, orange and gold. "My favourite is the powder blue variety," says florist Helena McIntosh of Melbourne's Tribal Rose.

Shape Clusters of six-petaled, star-shaped flowers on long grass-like stems, with fine, blade-shaped green leaves.

Look for Flowers in bud, with only a few starting to bloom.

Best displayed "With other bulb plants such as iris or tulips" says Helena. "Blue iris with soft blue *Ixia* is stunning. For a bolder look, try the brighter reds or oranges with yellow tulips." She recommends a plain black vase to display brighter varieties. "Or, for *Ixia* on its own, use a simple glass or crystal vase, and let the flowers become the star."

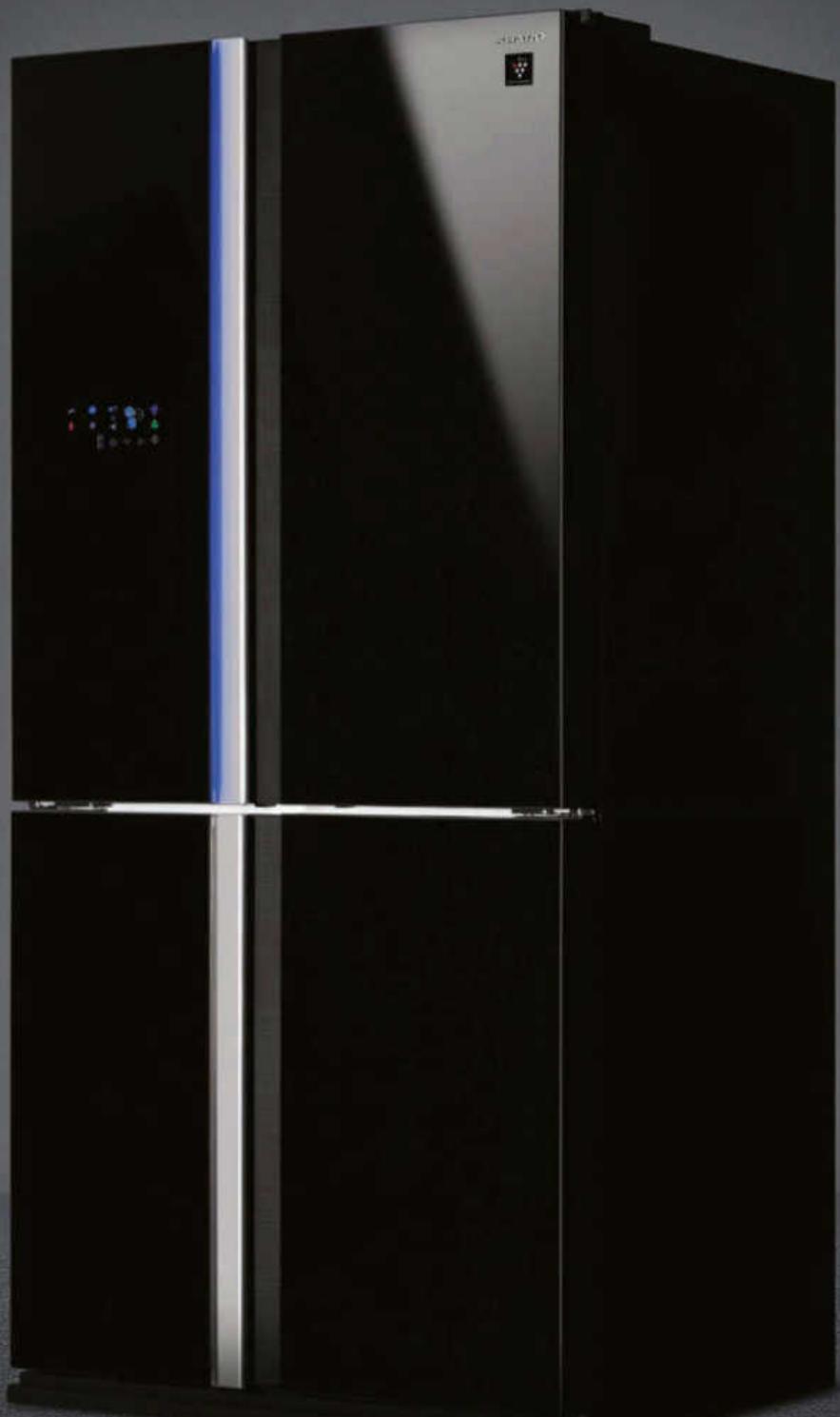
Tribal Rose, Fitzroy, Victoria; (03) 9415 6857 or www.tribalrose.com.au.

See Helena's *Ixia* arrangement  on our Pinterest page in October.

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the palette

James Ettelson's intricate works invite you to look, then look some more. And that's just what we did when we spied this acrylic and mixed-media creation online.

It's been snapped up by a lucky buyer but we can all enjoy the lush palette, adopted for our pages this month.

Complementary wares in organic materials and tender shades of pink, blue and green say 'spring', softly.

Paint colours are reproduced as accurately as printing processes allow. To see more of James' work, go to Arthouse Gallery; arthousegallery.com.au.



New Look
Denim Dash

Dulux
Simply Pink

Bristol
Monsoon Green

INSPIRED BUYS

Square Eyes artwork,
Arthouse Gallery;
arthousegallery.com.au. Tam
spreaders and spoons, \$8/
each, Country Road; www.countryroad.com.au. Rustic
silk-linen cushion, \$55,
Rapee; www.rapee.com.au. Textiles 15 #3 glass vessel,
\$8000, JamFactory; www.jamfactory.com.au. Branca
Skin beech chair, \$795,
Domo; domo.com.au.

H&G AT HOME WITH



what lies WITHIN

If there's one lesson to be learned from this beguiling Melbourne home, it's never judge a house by its facade.

STORY & STYLING JULIA GREEN / PHOTOGRAPHY ARMELLE HABIB



While the front of the 1960s house has been retained, it was given an update with Wattyl Flokati. The garage is now clad in timber battens painted in Dulux Monument. The new path is Endicott cobblestones laid in a crazy-paving pattern. Cobblestones from Eco Outdoor. **FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 236.**

H&G AT HOME WITH

*'I love coming home after work.
The minute I step through the
front door and am surrounded
by water, I instantly relax.'*

Stephen Mendel



Large-scale renovations are a significant undertaking, but for Stephen Mendel, the decision to renovate a third property a short time after the completion of his second house was an easy one.

"I really enjoyed the creative process of renovating our last house and felt a sense of sadness when it came to an end – although my family thought I was crazy!" says Stephen, who co-owns furniture retailer, Globe West.

After purchasing a rundown property in a south-eastern Melbourne suburb in 2012, Stephen and his wife Tanya immediately set to work with architect Jade Vidal of Bower Architecture and Interiors – with whom they had previously

collaborated – on a brief that would see the dark, dilapidated, 1960s single-storey dwelling transformed into a modern four-bedroom, split-level home that flows over 495m².

"While we had a generous area to work with, Stephen and Tanya insisted on the creation of intimate spaces that would offer a sense of journey and surprise with a strong indoor-outdoor connection," says Jade. "Creating zones for each family member was also high on their wish list."

The concept for the house involved retaining the original part of the dwelling at the front, which now contains the formal living and dining area, adding a higher north-facing section behind that contains the kitchen, casual dining and ▶



Stephen and Tanya with daughter Gaby in the light-flooded casual dining area, which overlooks the pool on the northern side. A change of flooring from bluestone in the dining area to blackbutt in the living area accentuates the different levels. Byron Angled recycled-teak dining table, Levi chairs and Drake Disc pendant lights, all Globe West. Rug, Halcyon Lake.

FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 236.

H&G AT HOME WITH

◀ living zones, as well as a two-storey bedroom wing at the rear. Here the ground level is occupied by a main bedroom suite and an exquisite indoor-outdoor room that is open on two sides. Upstairs is the domain of the couple's teenage daughters Gaby and Asha. The entire house forms a U-shape around a new infinity pool.

Honouring the aesthetic of the low-slung 1960s facade was an important consideration for the Mendels. As such, Jade designed the renovation to focus attention on the elegant single-storey proportions of the street frontage while concealing the scale of the new additions at the rear.

Inside, warm, textured materials are integral to a tonal, sophisticated interior. A striking foyer

with a built-in blackbutt bench and view straight through to the pool establishes a sense of calm at the outset. The casual dining and living areas continue the unimpeded view, while select walls and trims in Dulux Monument add gravitas. The Mendels' artwork and a beautiful selection of Globe West furniture completes the picture.

The family now spends weekends chasing the sun rather than checking building works. Whether it's lazing poolside or reading in their personal spaces, they use every inch of this wonderfully deceptive house. So, given the outcome, would they do it all again? "Never say never," says Stephen. ▶

Bower Architecture and Interiors, Prahran, Vic; (03) 9521 2552 or bowerarchitecture.com.au.





Black window frames and louvres from Breezway draw all eyes to the pool. Vittoria Polo sofa and Sloan marble coffee table, Globe West. Gas fireplace, Real Flame. Pendant light, Sonic Lighting.

OPPOSITE / Tanya enjoys the attention of Bailey the spoodle (left) and Millie the cavoodle. Blackbutt joinery details are woven into the fabric of the house, beginning with the external entrance ceiling. Here in the foyer, it's formed into a built-in bench, and can be glimpsed as the kitchen ceiling. In the casual living area it appears again as a display cabinet. Pendant, Sonic Lighting. *Dry Season* artwork by Angelina George. **FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 236.**



ABOVE / Blackbutt and Calacatta marble combine in the warm yet streamlined kitchen. A butler's pantry is conveniently located at left. Presley barstools, Globe West. Artwork by Darren Vigil Grey and Emily Besser (on rear bench). Plant holder, Rigby's Homewares. Beach bag, Dutzi Design.

ABOVE RIGHT / Stylish restraint is the key in Gaby's bedroom. Ethnicraft Nordic bed and Kubus Naomi side table from Globe West. Colour Correction artwork by Prudence Caroline. Aqua cushions, Freedom. Leopard-print cushion, Ourlieu.

RIGHT / The mistresses of the house. The ornate steel door was custom-designed by Bower Architecture and Interiors.

OPPOSITE / Over time the European beech will provide shade for the open-sided indoor-outdoor room. Jade designed the white screening elements on the first floor to create a subtle sense of enclosure. **FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 236.** ▶



look we love

There is a lovely dynamism and tension in this home. Dark blade walls and timber panelling interrupt crisp white expanses while contemporary furniture and art serve to draw you in, on a journey through generous spaces and islands of intimacy.



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DECORATING

INSPIRATION / TOP TRENDS / TOP 50 ROOMS

SPRING FAIR

Rejuvenate your home with delightful furniture combinations, clever twists, and hues that stay true to nature.

STYLING KATE NIXON / PHOTOGRAPHY CHRIS WARNE





PICTURE OF ELEGANCE

Overscaled florals and true-to-nature hues bring a fresh edge and sense of vitality to familiar forms.

ON WALL from left Delicate Botanical, Elegant Botanical and Enchanting Botanical framed artworks, \$695/each, all Penny Farthing Design House. **CLOCKWISE FROM BOTTOM LEFT** Round Boxed ottoman with Kvadrat Maharam Tonus wool upholstery, \$1370, Arthur G. Blush porcelain **teacup and saucer**, \$15, Maxwell & Williams. Metal-frame **armchair** with velvet upholstery in Dusty Blush, \$899, West Elm. Mimi polyester **curtains**, \$60/pair, Freedom. Designers Guild Shanghai Garden Peony linen **cushion**, \$260, No Chintz. Gilt bronze **side table** with marble top, \$2950, Manyara Home. **ON LEFT SIDE TABLE** Crystal **lamp base**, \$690, and silk **shade**, \$145, Imagine This. Cruz ceramic **bud vase**, \$20, Papaya. Cross bone **box**, \$87, and glass **votive holder**, \$7, My Brother Albert. Ainslie **sofa** with linen upholstery in Platinum, \$1799, West Elm. **ON SOFA** from left Velvet **cushion** in Rose, \$56, Citta Design. Designers Guild silk **cushion**, \$330, No Chintz. **Side table**, as before. **ON RIGHT SIDE TABLE** Kolkata **metal bowl**, \$81, My Brother Albert. **Lamp**, as before. Forest concrete-polystone **canister**, \$29, Zakkia. **Curtain**, as before. Diane Bergeron Quadrille Babe **bench** with cotton-linen upholstery, \$2390, Arthur G. Vachon wool **throw** in Flax, \$250, Sheridan. Cane **stools**, \$380/each, Imagine This. Elle Cube brass and glass **coffee table**, \$1095, Contents International Design. **ON COFFEE TABLE** from left Brass **jar**, \$90/set of two, brass **bowl**, \$35, and concrete-polystone **horse**, \$39, all Zakkia. Faux **cherry blossom**, \$21/stem, faux **wisteria**, \$12/stem, and faux **lilac**, \$22/stem, all Florabelle. Fia ceramic **pitcher**, \$95, My Brother Albert. Inlaid **boxes**, from \$50/each, Pigott's Store. Blush porcelain **teacup and saucer**, \$15, **teapot**, \$30, and **sugar bowl**, \$20 (includes creamer, not shown), all Maxwell & Williams. Lacquered **tray**, \$230, Domo. Dash & Albert Cooper Navy jute **rug** (2.4x3m), \$1540, Winton House. Belgian Silver Birch sisal **carpet**, \$150/m², The Natural Floorcovering Centres (throughout). Wall painted Porter's Paint Eggshell Acrylic in Lamb's Wool, \$43/L, Porter's Paints. Flowers from Mandalay Flowers (throughout).

FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 236. ▶



Mix and match florals, geometrics and trims with abandon. Eclectic combinations, applied with confidence, breathe new life into rooms.

BOOKISH CHARM

With DIY bookshelves and a deep, divine day bed, an under-used corner becomes an inviting nook.

LEFT / clockwise from top centre J. Robert Scott silk burlap sheer in Sterling, POA, leather samples, Moss poly-rayon-acrylic fringe in Sterling, POA, and Wool Dot wool-nylon fabric in Sterling, POA, all Elliott Clarke. J31-7 rayon-acrylic galon braid, \$25/m, Castle Trimmings. Thibaut Delilah cotton fabric in Spa Blue/Sand, POA, Boyac. John Robshaw Lanka Oyster linen fabric in Pink/Blue, \$328/m, Raoul Miramar linen fabric in Persimmon, \$360/m, Raoul Leopard linen fabric in Gold, \$360/m, and Raoul Aurelia linen fabric in Fuchsia, \$360/m, all Ascraft. 100-8751 rayon/acrylic grosgrain braid, \$22/m, Castle Trimmings. Raffia tray, \$99, West Elm. **OPPOSITE /** Liatorp pine bookcases, \$499/each, and wall/bridging shelf, \$250, Ikea.

TOP SHELF from left Dot lacquered-wood boxes, \$69/set of two, Zakkia. Antique books, from \$200/bundle, Imagine This. **SECOND SHELF** from left Cast-iron horse, \$1280/pair, Imagine This. Fest Beo glass vase in Purple, \$115, Spence & Lyda. **THIRD SHELF** from left Mounted globes, \$110 (small) and \$165 (large), Imagine This. Books, as before. Europe Africa leather lidded basket, \$350, Spence & Lyda. Tribal wooden boxes, \$80 (large), and \$55 (medium), Ruby Star Traders. **BOTTOM SHELF** from left Diamond ceramic vase, \$43, Oz Design Furniture. Meizai porcelain jar with lid, \$840, Laura Kincade. Beetle artwork, \$315, Contents International Design. **WALL SHELF** Bronze rhino, \$780, Imagine This. Matsuoka Torii walnut dining chair with Rubelli Sing upholstery, \$1780, Laura Kincade. Gilt iron table with mirror top, POA, Cromwell. **ON TABLE** Mini Geodesic metal table lamp with linen-cotton shade, \$149, West Elm. Mercury glass vase, \$30, Ruby Star Traders. Diamond ceramic vase, \$43, Oz Design Furniture. Stylistik metal crabs, POA, Strand Group. Alette brass wall light with satin shade, \$629, ZM Distribution. Cole and Son Royal Garden wallpaper, \$260/10m, Radford. Brimnes particleboard and pine day bed, \$400, Ikea. Hand-tufted mattress, POA, and bolster, from \$220, No Chintz. Poppy cotton cushion in Mustard, \$50, Madras Link. Frankie cotton throw, \$99, Freedom. White Etching ceramic and brass knobs, \$35/four, Zakkia. **FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 236.** ▶





Reflective surfaces glimmer by day; textured pairs of ready-made curtains and mid-weight bedding foster comfy nights and restful sleep.



Flowers from Mandalay Flowers.

SWEET SLUMBER

For a bedroom that's serene, not stuffy, blend elegant lines with spring-fresh fabrics and hues.

FROM LEFT Park mirrored two-drawer **bedside table**, \$654, Pottery Barn. Polished brass **jars**, \$90/set of two, Zakkia. Genie ceramic **lamps** with linen shades, \$550/each, Bloomingdales Lighting. Mercury glass **vase**, \$35, Ruby Star Traders. Dalton metal **bed**, \$2450, My Brother Albert. **ON BED from rear** Wedgwood Wild Strawberry queen-size **cotton quilt cover set**, \$330, David Jones. Lacquer **tray** in Rose Bisque, \$39, West Elm. Peony Perfection porcelain **mug**, \$10, Maxwell & Williams. Polygon cotton **quilt** in Powder (260x260cm), \$503, Cult. Christian Lacroix cotton **cushion**, \$240, Domo. Maison queen-size linen-cotton **sheet** in Dove (top mattress), \$329/sheet set, Aura by Tracie Ellis. Superfine Twill queen-size cotton **sheet** in Snow, \$370/sheet set, Sheridan. Joya **mirror** with timber frame, \$60, Exhibit Interiors. Crystal mirrored **bedside table**, \$269, Fantastic Furniture. **Lamp**, as before. Bone-inlay **photo frame** in Pink, \$78, Pigott's Store. Linen-cotton **curtains** in Platinum, \$87/panel, West Elm. Silhouette sheer **curtains** in Antique White, \$50/pair, **curtain rod**, \$80, and **finials**, \$20/pair, all Freedom. Jesse Haiku **armchair** with linen slipcover, \$4290, Fanuli. John Robshaw Kala **cushion**, \$212, Ascraft. Foliage from Mandalay Flowers in Palamino reconstituted-stone **vase**, \$70, Papaya. Parsons **mirror** in wooden frame with capiz shell inlay, \$399, West Elm. Glass **jar** with lid, \$93, My Brother Albert. Flower ceramic **tealight holder**, \$18, Pigott's Store. Ceramic **tray**, \$88, Pigott's Store. Shalimar timber **cabriole chest** with mother-of-pearl inlay, \$3960, Ruby Star Traders. Ariel wool and silk **rug** (250x350cm), \$3395, Coco Republic. Textline Pro PVC **flooring** in Walnut, \$75/m² (installed), Gerflor. Wall painted Porter's Eggshell Acrylic in Lamb's Wool, \$43/L, Porter's Paints.

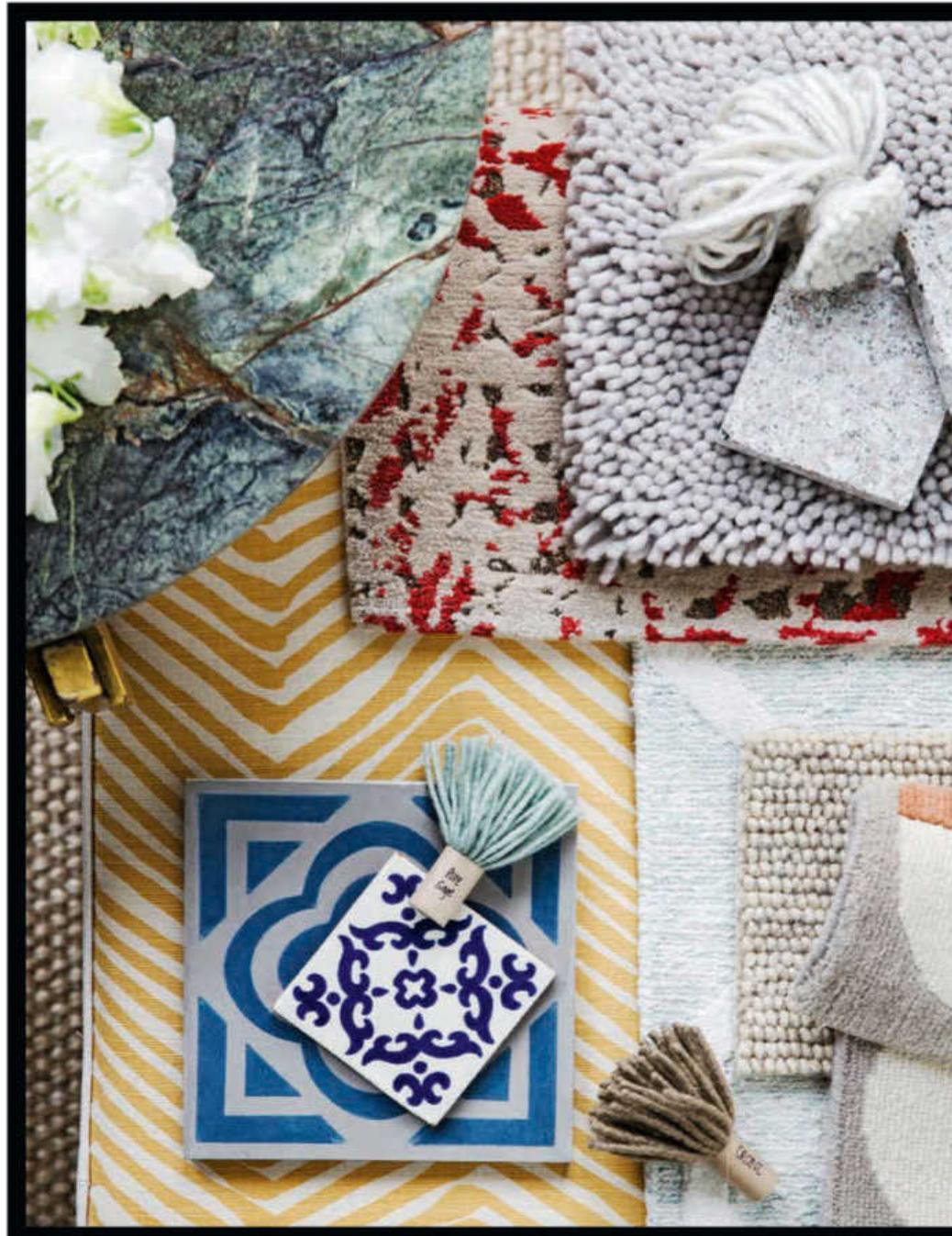
FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 236.



SITTING PRETTY

Combine leggy furniture, botanical prints and accessories in rope and lace for a look that's light and lovely.

RIGHT / clockwise from top left Art Deco bronze side table with marble top, \$2950, Manyara Home. Verona Ripped wool, silk and nettle rug, \$2400/m², Cadrys. Easton Pearson Moon Shadow wool-silk rug (2x3m), \$6750, Designer Rugs. Granite cobblestone tiles, \$115/m², Tiles by Kate. Hex linen rug, \$800/m², Cadrys. Lisburn wool carpet in Venise, \$122/m² (installed), Cavalier Bremworth. Greg Natale London wool rug (2.4x3m), \$5975, Designer Rugs. Mexican ceramic tile (top), \$11, and Clover concrete tile, \$165/m², Tiles by Kate. **OPPOSITE / from left** Ashley oak dining chair with Warwick Lumley upholstery, \$469, Oz Design Furniture. OX Denmarq O brass dining table with marble top, \$6950, Great Dane. **ON TABLE** Majestic copper-plated cognac goblets, \$32/each, Exhibit Interiors. Glass bottle, \$83, My Brother Albert. Faux cymbidium orchids, \$35/stem, Florabelle. Ribbed glass bowl, \$108, My Brother Albert. Designers Guild Lilac Rose linen cushion, \$215, No Chintz. Cyborg polycarbonate and wicker armchair, \$787, Cult. Big Flo olefin rug in Coconut (160cm diameter), \$449, Oz Design Furniture. Rollo Low 3 open-storage benches (with castors, not shown), \$99/each, Freedom (not suitable for seating). Marque cotton-rope hampers, \$80/each, Papaya. **ON BENCH** from left Jolie linen-cotton cushion, \$128, Citta Design. Chainstitch Clouds cotton cushion in Yellow/White, \$150, Ruby Star Traders. Chevron Diamond silk-cotton cushion cover in Pale Harbour, \$54, and Crewel Lattice cotton cushion cover in Pale Harbour, \$59, West Elm. John Robshaw Verdin cushion, \$212, Ascraft. Baxter cotton futon cushions in Slate, \$25/each, Freedom. Mimou WP1094 wallpaper, \$258/10.5m, Scandinavian Wallpaper & Décor. East Borne nickel-plated brass wall lights, \$325/each, Emac & Lawton. Pierre peacock artwork, \$795 (framed), Penny Farthing Design House. Fiori di Pizzo brass and ceramic pendant light, \$573, LightCo. Ekby Hemnes pine wall shelves, \$30/each, with Ekby Stodis pine brackets, \$2.50/each, Ikea. **ON SHELVES** Mercury hurricane vase, \$30, Freedom. Aria ceramic teapot, \$65, milk jug, \$17, and sugar pot, \$20, all Papaya. **FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 236.**



Layer materials united by a natural palette and work in motifs and brighter notes to draw the eye. Stone and silk, marble, linen, wool and ceramics are all brilliant starting points.



STAR TURN

Set up a luxe dressing table in a transit zone or alcove, with a slim desk, twin lamps and mirrors.

ON WALL Mimou WP1094 wallpaper, \$258/10.5m, Scandinavian Wallpaper & Décor. **Flora mirror** with metal frame, \$60, Exhibit Interiors. **Oly San Francisco Cool oil paintings** on canvas, \$1995/set of four, Coco Republic. Parsons engineered wood and metal desk in Blackened Brass, \$899, West Elm. **ON DESK** from left **Star Bone** wood and bone **table lamps**, \$625/each, Emac & Lawton. **Glass vase**, \$198, **horn and shell bottle**, \$104, and **pewter-plated tray**, \$43, all My Brother Albert. **Casablanca mirror** with recycled-polystyrene frame, \$99, Fantastic Furniture. **Pivoting vanity mirror** with pewter frame, \$134, Pottery Barn. **Diane Bergeron Lexi bench/stool** with cotton-linen upholstery, \$1610, Arthur G. **Potocco Miura chair** with cotton-viscose-polyster-linen upholstery, from \$1770, Cosh Living. **ON CHAIR** MissoniHome **Rajkot** embroidered-cotton **cushion**, \$490, Spence & Lyda. **Sloane leather coin purse**, \$89, Citta Design. **Manfred** wool-cotton **runner**, \$528, Tribe Home.

FROM PAGE 39 / clockwise from top left Cole and Son Royal Garden wallpaper, \$260/10m, Radford. Hand-painted artwork on canvas, \$550, Renee's House of Designs. Ribbed ball glass vase, \$137, My Brother Albert. Hammered brass bowl, \$35, Zakkia. Manhattan metal **console** with marble top, \$1950, Canvas+Sasson. Knotted string **bag** with leather trim, \$165, and goat-hair **rug** in Cream (1.98x1.17m), \$690, The Design Hunter. Coco Magnolia coconut **pendant light**, \$695, Weylandts. Napoleon American oak and rattan **chair** with linen upholstery, \$895, Me & Mo Homewares. Velvet **cushion** in Rose, \$56, Citta Design. **FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 236.**

H&G

Draw on symmetry and repetition to create an air of formality. Decorative finishes and soft upholstered seating play at old-world glamour.

SLEEP SANCTUARY

Create inviting spaces and brighten the mood with **HARVEY NORMAN'S** range of stylish on-trend bedding.



BEDROOM FURNITURE Random Bedside Table, \$949 each; Ayre Queen Bed, \$1899.

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DECORATOR Ryker Yellow Bedside Lamp, \$109 each. **FLOORING** Rug Medium 160x230 Mandalay, \$699.

All other items are stylist's own.

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BEDROOM FURNITURE Macedon Bedside Table, \$599 each; Macedon Queen Bed, \$2099.

MANCHESTER Kenzie Queen Quilt Cover Set², \$229.95; Queen Linen Sheet Set¹ in Stone, \$299.95;

Kenzie European Pillowcase, \$49.95; Kurt Natural Square Cushion, \$59.95; Gradient Aqua Square Cushion, \$59.95;

Zimiri Teal Throw, \$149.95; All by Kas Room. **DECORATOR** Sabra Bedside Lamp, \$69 each.

FLOORING Rug Medium 160x230 Mandalay, \$699. All other items are stylist's own.

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BEDROOM FURNITURE Adamson Bedside Table, \$949 each; Adamson Queen Bed, \$1899.

MANCHESTER All of You Pom Pom Queen Quilt Cover in White, \$180; All of You Pom Pom Pillowcase in White, \$35 each; Desert Oasis Pillowcase, \$35 each; Velvet Sky Cushion in Indigo, \$70; Velvet Sky European Pillowcase in Indigo, \$65; All by Shannon Fricke. L'Avenue 500TC Queen Sheet Set[®] White, \$119.95. **DECORATOR** Manning Copper Bedside Lamp, \$99 each. **FLOORING** Rug Medium 160x230 Rhapsody, \$899. All other items are stylist's own.

COSY COUNTRY

A recessed wall painted in an earthy tone makes a great feature to nestle your bed into, couple with copper bedside lamps to really modernise the look.



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PROVINCIAL CHARM

A soft neutral backdrop allows the details and textures of a room to shine, a diamond-buttoned upholstered bedhead and soft coloured timber frame is the perfect match.



BEDROOM FURNITURE Chelmsford Bedside Table, \$899 each; Chelmsford Queen Bed, \$1999.

MANCHESTER Heart and Home Queen Quilt Cover, \$160; Heart and Home Pillowcase, \$35 each; Velvet Sky European Pillowcase in Blush, \$65; All by Shannon Fricke. L'Avenue 500TC Queen Sheet Set*1 White, \$119.95. **DECORATOR** Ada Crystal Bedside Lamp, \$229 each.

FLOORING Rug Medium 160x230 Grace, \$299. All other items are stylist's own.

FOR MORE INFO, VISIT WWW.HN.COM.AU OR CALL 1300 464 278 (1300 GO HARVEY)

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TRENDS

TAN LINES

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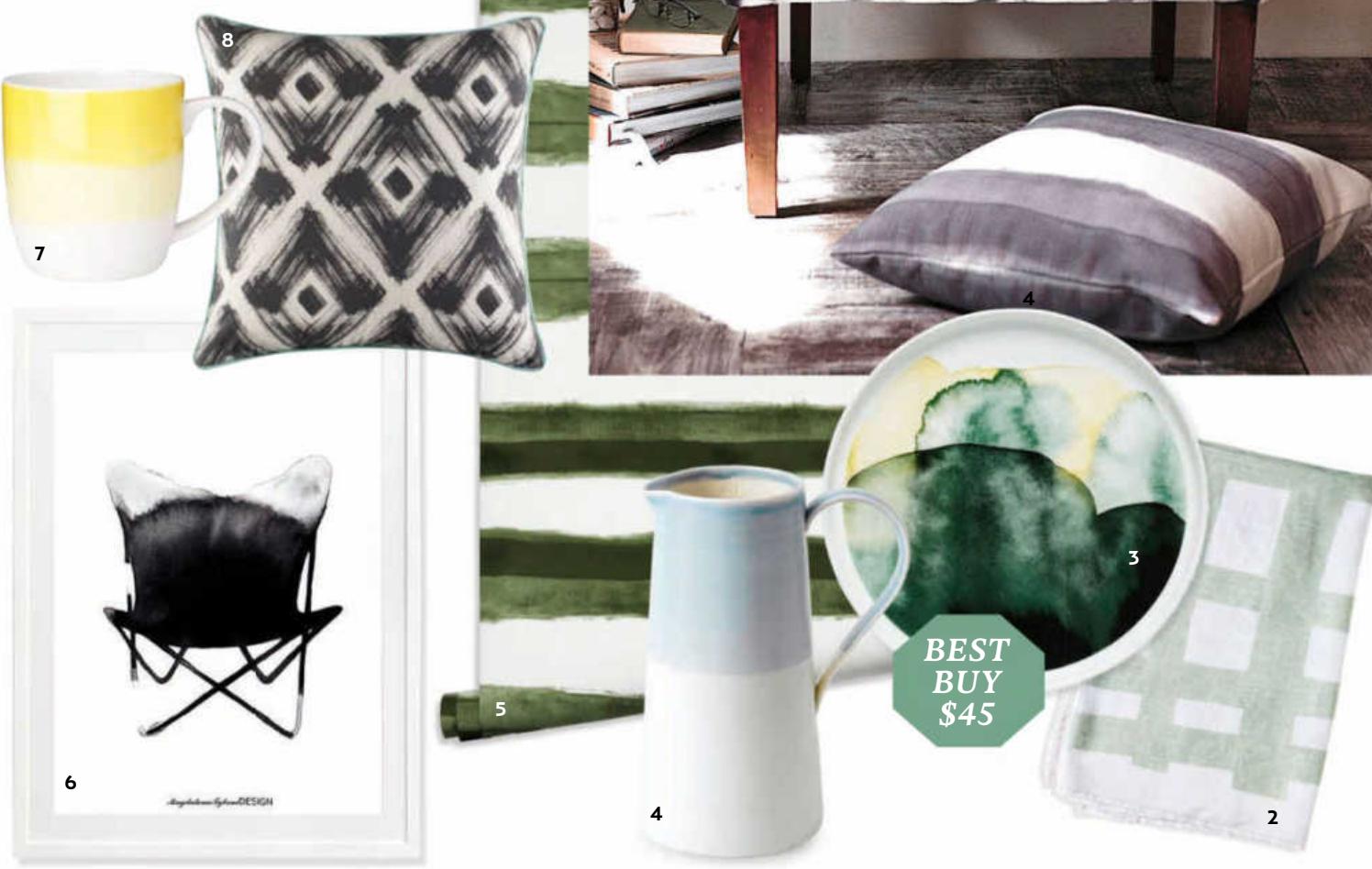
1 / Metal-frame chairs with leather upholstery, \$1699/each, West Elm; 1800 239 516 or www.westelm.com.au. 2 / Amigos De Hoy leather and linen cushion in Tan (40x40cm), \$99, Art Hide; 0458 785 361 or www.arthide.com.au. 3 / Leather coin purse in Caramel/Purple, \$66, Barefoot Gypsy; www.barefootgypsy.com.au. 4 / Recycled-glass tumblers with palm fibre, \$10/each, Oxfam; 1800 088 455 or www.oxfamshop.org.au. 5 / Amalfi glass apothecary vase in Amber (29cm), \$35, Zanui; 1300 668 317 or www.zanui.com.au. 6 / Alby leather ottoman, \$1980, Jardan; (03) 9548 8866 or www.jardan.com.au. 7 / Tripod 1 Light metal floor lamp in Tan, \$189, Beacon Lighting; 1300 232 266 or www.beaconlighting.com.au. 8 / Batongo grass-weave basket (39x44cm), \$180, Boyd Blue; (07) 5527 0899 or www.boydblue.com.

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TRENDS

WATER COLOUR

Painterly strokes, blots and washes are blurring the lines in interiors as watercolours wash over furniture and accessories, reminding us of the imperfect beauty of handcrafted arts.



1 / **Shibori Star** polyester-linen **fabric** in Charcoal (on chair), \$124/m, **Shibori Stripe** polyester-linen **cushions** in Charcoal (50x50cm), \$105, and Silver (50x50cm), \$105, all Sparkk; (02) 9313 8759 or www.sparkk.com.au. 2 / **Sea Tangle** linen **throw** in Bok Choy, \$149, Kate & Kate; 0409 592 703 or www.kateandkate.com.au. 3 / **Saapaivakirja** Weather Diaries stoneware **plate** in Sea, \$45, Marimekko; (02) 9281 6519 or www.marimekko.com. 4 / Royal Doulton 200 years 1815-2015 large porcelain **jug**, \$80, Royal Doulton; 1300 852 022 or www.wrrd.com.au. 5 / **Shibori Stripe** Roll non-woven **wallpaper** in Olive, \$195/61.5cmx10m roll, Milton & King; (07) 3162 5030 or shop.miltonandking.com. 6 / Magdalena Tyboni Design **Butterfly Chair** print (30x40cm), \$45, Norsu Interiors; 0407 365 673 or www.norsu.com.au. 7 / **Disolve** bone china **mug** in Sunflower, \$7, Freedom 1300 135 588; www.freedom.com.au. 8 / **Marquise** cotton **cushion** in Charcoal (50x50cm), \$40, Freedom.

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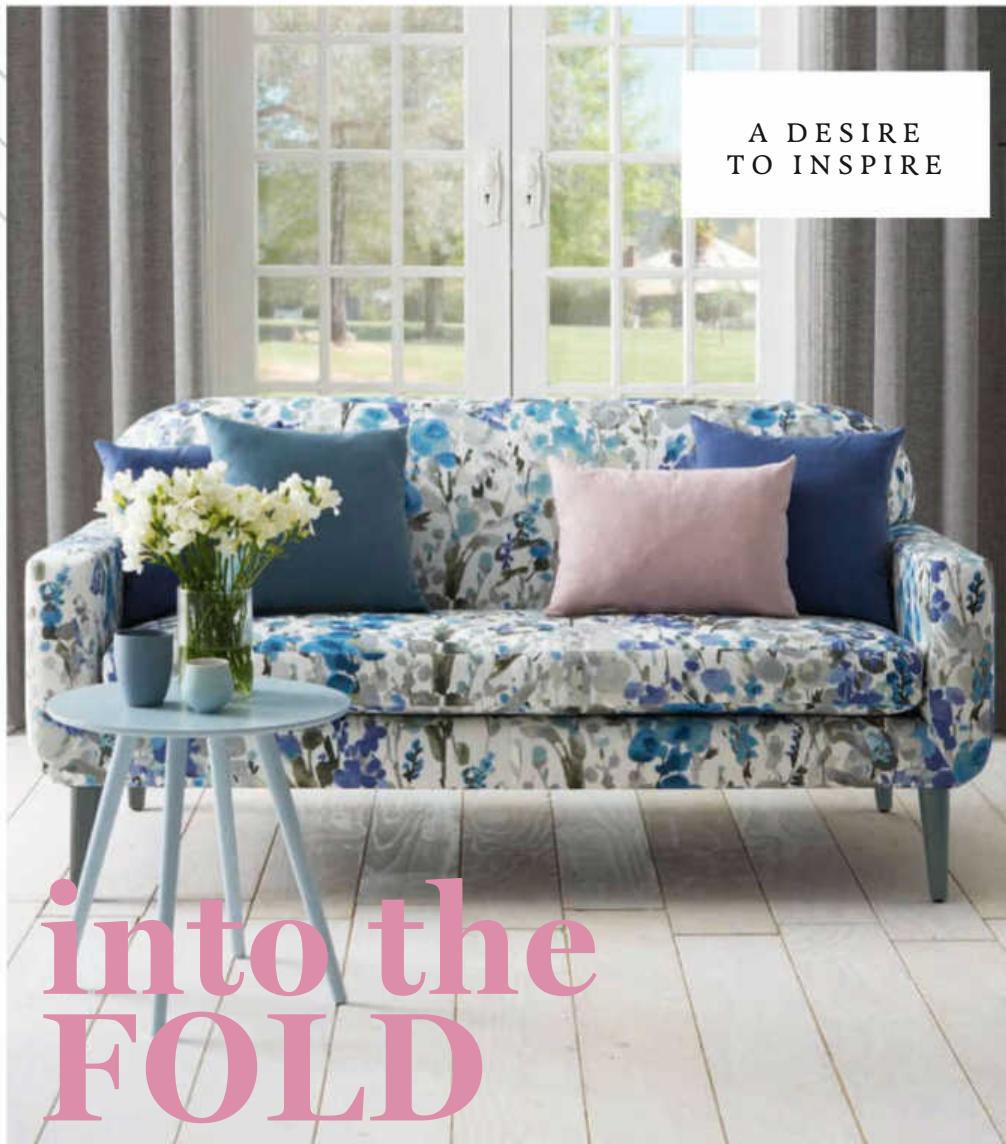


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AS ONE OF THE LEADING TEXTILE COMPANIES IN THE WORLD, WARWICK IS AN AUTHORITY ON CREATING STRIKING INTERIORS AND A PROUD SPONSOR OF H&G'S TOP 50 ROOMS, AN ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF AUSTRALIAN DESIGN.

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TIPS FROM THE CUTTING EDGE

01 COLOUR

Complement on-trend greys with blue hues ranging from classic cobalt to striking steel.

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TOP 50 ROOMS



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PRODUCED BY ALAANA COBON & LISA GREEN
TEXT BY ALAANA COBON, ANNA FLANDERS, CHRIS PEARSON & SARAH PICKETTE

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ALL SERENE

Comfort is king in this gracious living room in Melbourne. The velvet-covered window seat is a sun trap and plump linen sofas are positioned fireside for cosy winter evenings. The existing chandelier was retained for its relationship to the home's Victorian architecture and its diamond-shaped glass baubles are referenced in the quilted tub chair and rug.

I LOVE IT "It feels glamorous but understated," says the owner.

TRY THIS AT HOME Subtle variations in colour and texture have a calming effect. Multiple seating options and table surfaces mean this room transitions easily from relaxed reading zone to after-dinner drinks venue. ►

SHOP THE ROOM

- Louis Poulsen PHS pendant light.
- Nimbus Modul downlights, cast into the slab for a flush finish.
- Smoked and lime-washed oak floorboards.
- Antique bronze finishes on floor grilles and door hardware, Architectural Door Hardware.
- Walls painted Dulux Lexicon, half strength.



Photography by Justin Alexander & Jason Loucas (Romaine), Artwork by Norbert Schwoitkowski. For Where to Buy, see page 236.



Luigi Rosselli
Luigi Rosselli Architects;
(02) 9281 1498 or
luigirosselli.com.
Romaine Alwill
Alwill Interiors; (02) 9699
5302 or alwill.com.au.

CURTAIN CALL

2 This dramatic dining space is part of an extension to an 1880s Victorian villa in Sydney. It's "defiantly contemporary", says Luigi, who selected materials and finishes that play off each other to great effect. The off-form concrete ceiling bears the imprint of the weathered timber planks used as formwork, mirroring the washed-oak floor. The artwork unites the sand-coloured materials and deep tones of the furniture.

SMITTEN "It's the most liveable room," says the owner. **TRY THIS AT HOME** There's power in simplicity: raw materials, finely detailed. When the fine-wool S-fold curtains are drawn, they afford privacy, screen out direct sunlight, and allow the sculptural Scandinavian dining setting and iconic pendant light to create the drama. ►

'The idea was to nurture the juxtaposition between traditional and modern with respect for the new architectural forms.' Romaine Alwill





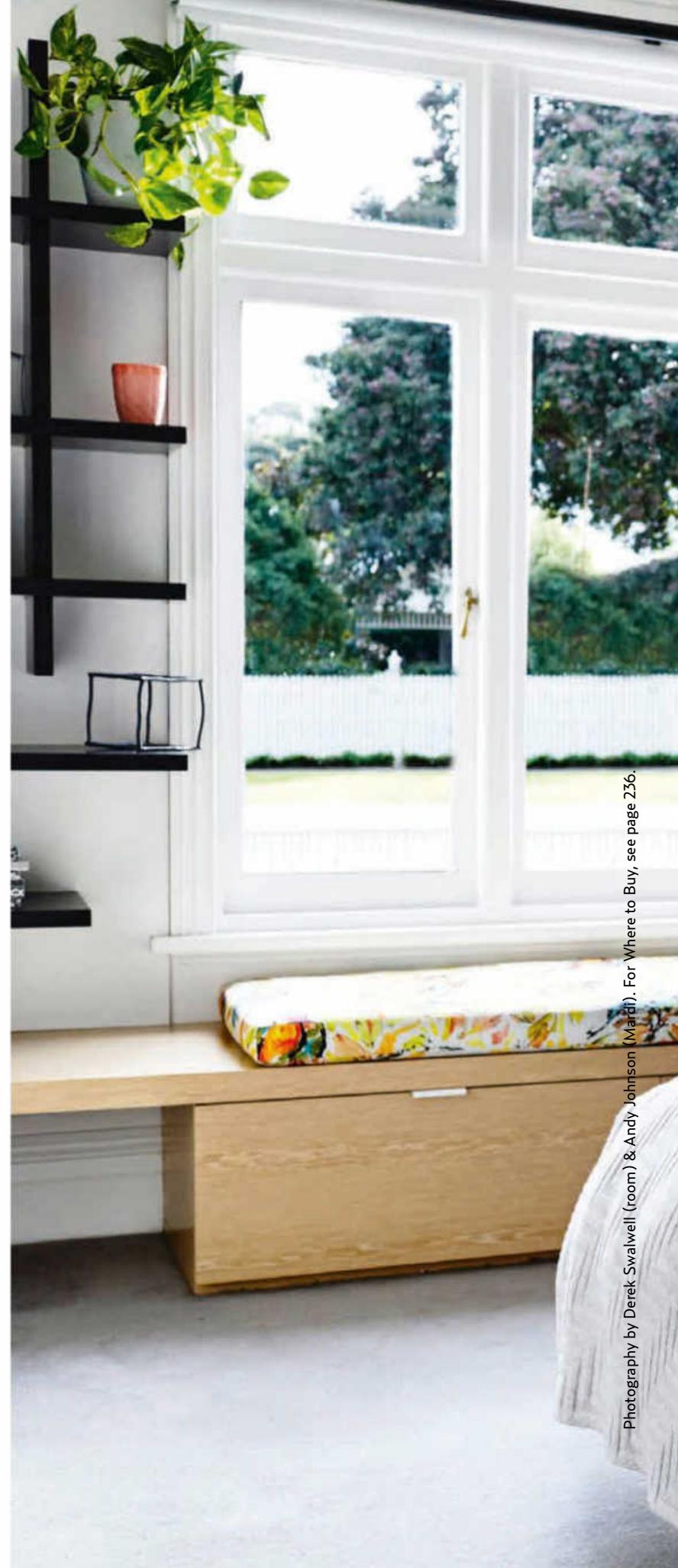
**Mardi Doherty (left)
& Michelle Evans**
Doherty Design Studio;
(03) 9815 2737 or
www.dohertydesignstudio.com.au.

SITTING PRETTY

3 Interior designers Mardi and Michelle used printed textiles and colour to reinvigorate the main bedroom of this Melbourne home. Working in conjunction with Techné Architecture+Interior Design, they also added bold black shelving and a window seat. "The patterned fabric provides interest in a room that otherwise has a fairly utilitarian aesthetic," says Mardi.

SMITTEN "We love that the designers kept the original features while adding elements to connect it to the wider renovation," say the owners, Doug and Jenny.

TRY THIS AT HOME The textural mix is a key design feature. SuperTuft Escape velour carpet, woven curtains in Warwick Fabrics Chios Asphalt, linen bedding and a knitted throw ensure the room feels relaxed and inviting. ►



Photography by Derek Swalwell (room) & Andy Johnson (Mardi). For Where to Buy, see page 236.

SHOP THE ROOM

- ✚ White Oak veneer joinery, Slice Veneers.
- ✚ Bench seat cushion covered in Lalie Design Tissu Piou Piou fabric, Tigger Hall Design.
- ✚ Curtain in Chios Asphalt, Warwick Fabrics.
- ✚ Bed, Jardan.
- ✚ French linen bedlinen, Miss Molly.
- ✚ Escape Velour carpet in Swat, SuperTuft.
- ✚ Decode Vessel pendant light, ECC Lighting+Furniture.



SHOP THE ROOM

- ✚ Amy armchair, Temperature Design.
- ✚ Drift rug, Armadillo&Co.
- ✚ Custom-made ottoman, upholstered in Zepel Fabrics Lux Velvet.
- ✚ Christian Lacroix Soft Manaos (patterned velvet) cushions, Radford.
- ✚ Elitis Sortilege (green linen) cushions, Seneca Textiles.
- ✚ Accessories and tray, Moss Melbourne.





Kerryn Paolone (left)
& Jacquie Pask
Moss Melbourne;
(03) 9525 5014 or
www.mossmelbourne.com.au.

EMERALD TOUCH

4 With a brief to reclaim an underutilised guestroom, Kerryn and Jacquie transformed this Melbourne room into an alluring multi-use retreat. Black and green accents and a mix of plush textures ooze sophistication; the selection of luxe fabrics and the owner's artworks round out a refined look that enhances the property's architectural features.

SMITTEN "I love this room because it brings a sense of beauty, tranquillity and calm that is otherwise hard to find in our hectic household," says the owner, Bridget.

TRY THIS AT HOME An existing linen-covered sofa bed was retained and worked into the setting to offer great flexibility. All elements can be easily moved around to suit the needs of the day.



Antonietta Sofia
Sofiaa Interior Design;
(08) 8362 5164 or
www.sofiaa.com.au.

ELEVATED THINKING

5 This mezzanine-level library in Adelaide allows the owners to withdraw without being disconnected from the action in the rest of the home. Metres of open shelving and a rolling ladder, all in stained American oak, keep books within easy reach. At the far end, an oversize armchair and well-placed rug create an idyllic nook for reading.

SMITTEN "It's light and inviting and overlooks our downstairs living area as well as having views to the outside," says Jo, the owner.

DESIGN INSIGHTS High linear windows bring treetop views into this room. With unobtrusive glass balustrades and unfettered finishes, it's a deliberately streamlined, simple zone. ▶



BEGUILING DETAILS

6 Existing Art Deco flourishes give this Sydney kitchen – once the living room – real character. Ornate ceiling decorations contrast with the clean lines of the modern kitchen. The fireplace alcove now houses the Ilve freestanding oven, while pale grey Carrara marble was selected for the splashback and repeated on the island benchtop.

SMITTEN "I love that the integrity of the living room was maintained," says the owner. "It is still the gathering place, like the old fireplace once was."

TRY THIS AT HOME "The joinery is deliberately clean-lined to contrast and highlight the original features," says Madeleine. "The suspended light fixture adds a sense of drama." ▶



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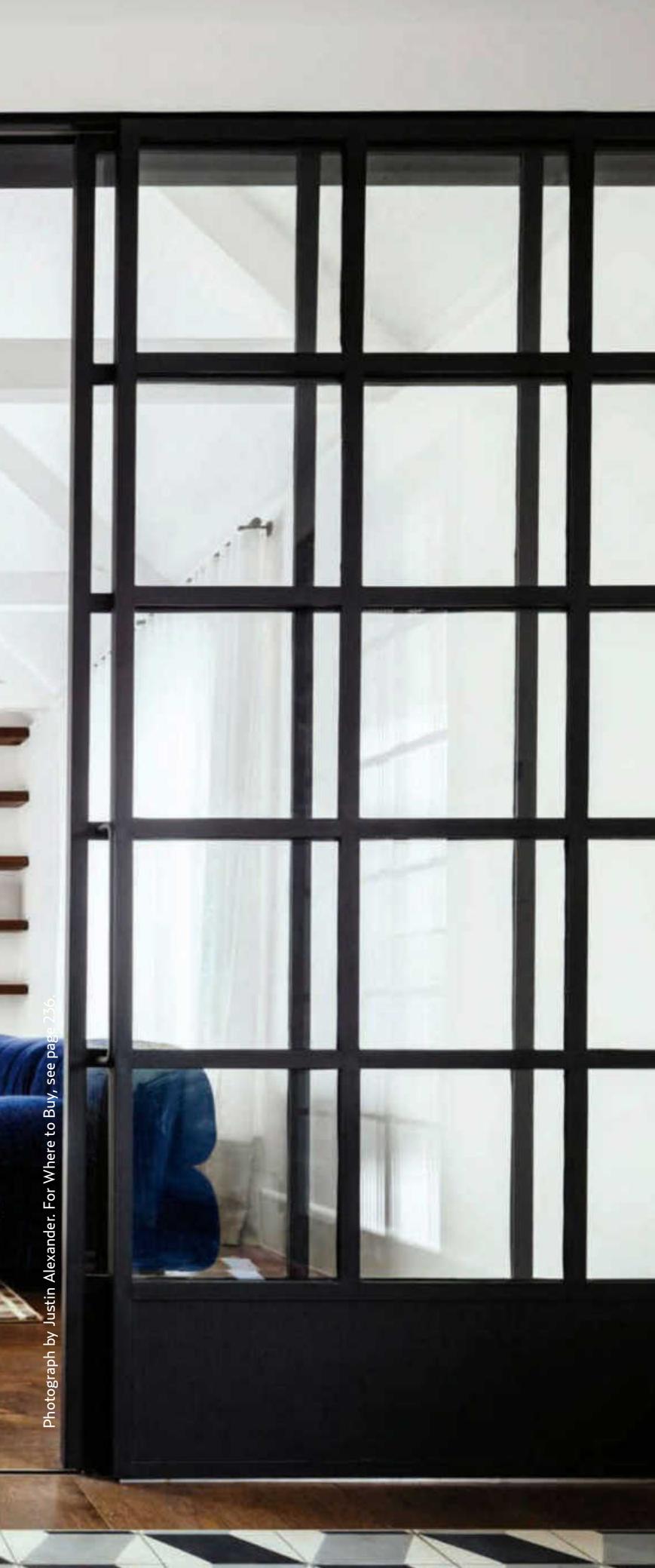
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Indooroopilly U1, 272 Moggill Rd	

WA

Joondalup Shop T3, 1 Sundew Rise	O'Connor U1, 2 Stockdale Rd
Osborne Park U3, 22 King Edward Rd	





MATERIAL MIX

- ✚ Sienna European-oak engineered-timber flooring, Precision Flooring.
- ✚ Walls painted Dulux Natural White, ceiling painted Dulux Vivid White. Metal details painted Resene Blast Grey 3.
- ✚ Linen S-fold curtains with contrasting trim in Simple Studio Quay Colours 1&2.
- ✚ Tartan rug, Robyn Cosgrove Rugs.
- ✚ Vintage B&B Italia Carmaleonda sofa.
- ✚ Arflex Botolo chair, Poliform.
- ✚ Molteni D153.1 Gio Ponti occasional chair, Hub Furniture Lighting Living.
- ✚ Classicon Bell coffee table, Anibou.



Alexandra Donohoe
Decus Interiors;
(02) 9363 4004
or www.decus.com.au.

DRAMA CLASS

7 The owners of this home, located on Sydney's Northern Beaches, asked for a reading room with an 'informal formality'. "We developed a pensive colour palette and the Tartan rug is a nod to traditional libraries," says Alexandra. Strong elements in the architecture, by Luigi Rosselli Architects, are balanced by curvaceous contemporary furniture.

SMITTEN "It's the perfect escape for late-night entertaining or relaxing on the sofa," says Alexandra.

DESIGN INSIGHTS Contemporary furniture selections ensure the ambience stays playful, balancing the strong architecture of the vaulted ceiling and doors. The glass-paned steel doors slide shut to keep the peace without closing the room off from the rest of the house. ►



Fiona Shakespeare
Shakespeare Design;
(02) 8060 5788 or
shakespeare-design.com.au.

CALM AND COLLECTED

8 A cocooning space was desired for the main bedroom in this home in Sydney's inner west. Fiona specified the palest grey for the walls (Resene Truffle) to give gentle structure to the serene materials palette, which includes linen, leather and stone. White trims and ceiling and textured carpet provide definition; modern furniture and accessories round out the design. Both the wardrobe and bathroom are accessed via pivot doors painted Dulux Vivid White. **SMITTEN** "I see my favourite pictures and my favourite chair and feel instantly calm and happy," says the owner. **TRY THIS AT HOME** Meaningful artwork — such as this portrait of the owner's father, illustrated by her grandmother — keeps a bedroom personal.



Amanda Lynn
Amanda Lynn Interior Design;
0438 952 141.

MIRRORED MARVEL

9 This family bathroom in a Melbourne Edwardian home was once a spare bedroom. With plenty of space to play with, Amanda chose a freestanding bath and a generous shower to create a luxurious bathing experience. The ornate fireplace had been boarded up and was only discovered once renovations were underway.

SMITTEN "It is so unusual to get architectural features in a bathroom," says the owner, Martine. "The fireplace and traditional ceiling rose really anchor the space."

DESIGN INSIGHTS "This room is also used as a powder room so we created a vestibule-like area near the entrance with two nib walls," says Amanda. "This keeps the toilet and vanity contained but still allows a view to the bath and fireplace." ▶



SHOP THE ROOM

- Bath, Apaiser.
- Ostar bath filler, Swan Street Sales.
- Mirror from Mirror Mirror.
- Marble wall and floor tiles, Perini Tiles.
- Calacatta Vagli marble vanity, Signorino Tile Gallery.
- Castore Sospensione 140 light, Artemide.



SHOP THE ROOM

- Custom-made wool and aloe rug, Behruz Studio.
- Kourtney mussel shell and wood table lamp, Arteriors.
- Mirror, Camargue.
- Bedside table, Country Design.
- Custom-made bed and ottoman, Thomas Hamel & Associates.
- Fijian ceiling fan, Beacon Lighting.
- Decorative baskets, Orient House.
- Walls and ceiling painted Dulux Natural White.



Thomas Hamel
Thomas Hamel & Associates;
(02) 9699 3688 or
thomashamel.com.

CARIBBEAN DREAM

10 The owners of this new three-bedroom beach house on Sydney's Northern Beaches presented interior designer Thomas with images of Ralph Lauren's home in Jamaica as their inspiration. He readily obliged, producing this airy main bedroom complete with louvres and tongue-and-groove ceiling.

WE LOVE IT "From the beautiful structural lines in the ceiling to the subtle colour in the fabrics, all the elements come together to create our perfect room," say the owners.

TRY THIS AT HOME A pitched ceiling makes for a more spacious room. Sliding shuttered doors facilitate air and light flow. ▶





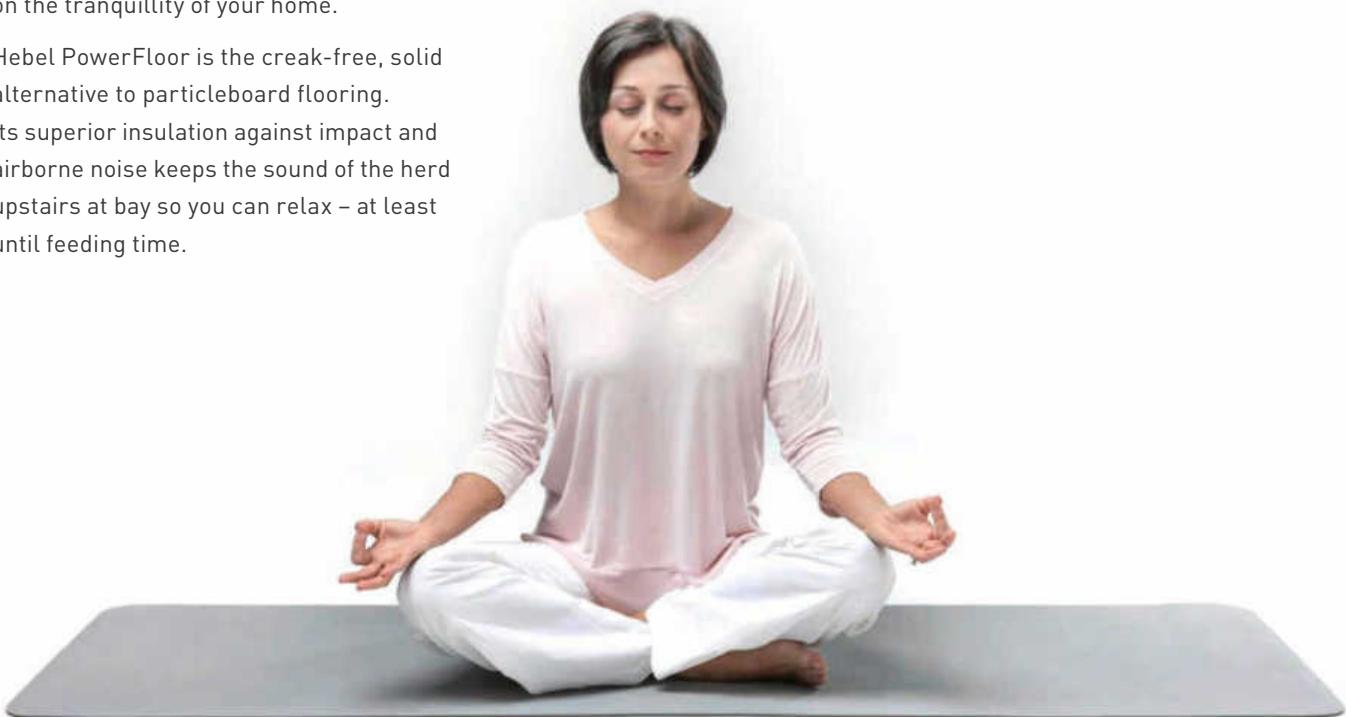
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'Bigger is not always better. This extension was designed as just enough to provide a more comfortable living space.' Luke Stanley



Luke Stanley

Luke Stanley Architects;
0403 186 004 or www.lukestanleyarchitects.com.

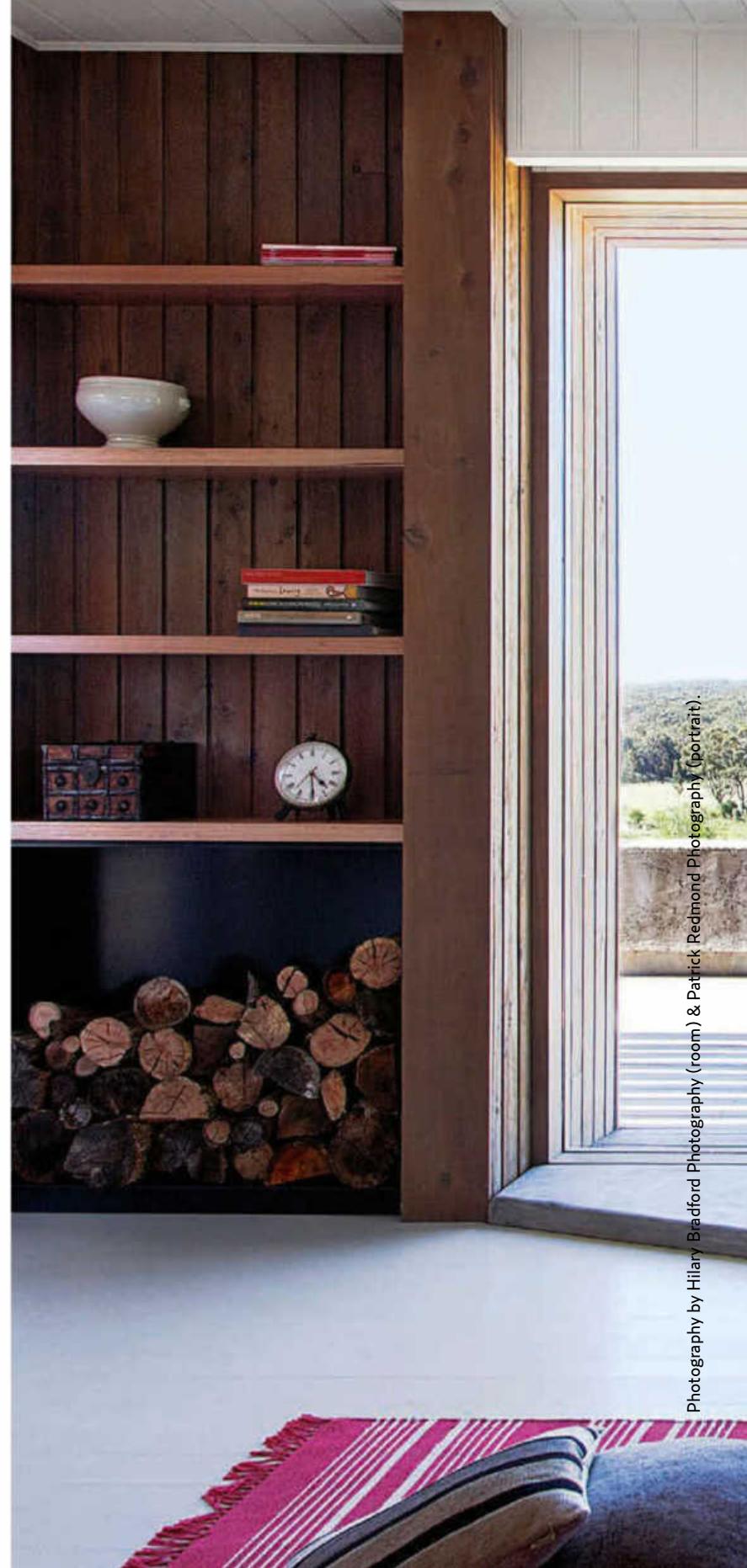
PULL FOCUS

11 A small extension to this rural Victoria property capitalised on its northerly aspect and sweeping view. A feature window, framing the scenic outlook, is utterly commanding. All other elements in this living space – from materials to colours – are understated so as not to distract from the view.

SMITTEN "Luke created a seamless transition from old to new through considered choice of materials, colours, fittings, finishes and scale," says the owner, Peter.

"The changes have enriched our enjoyment of our home."

TRY THIS AT HOME Architectural details double as decorative features, such as these cypress pine blade walls that extend outside. Simple materials such as wood, concrete and earthy ceramics heighten the serenity. ►



Photography by Hilary Bradford Photography (room) & Patrick Redmond Photography (portrait).



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and scan this page.







Jason Saunders
Arc Seven.1; (08) 9201 1280
or www.arc-seven1.com.au.

GARDEN PARTY

12 Carved out of the garden of a 1930s house in Perth, this dining room is connected to the outdoors by frameless glass sliding doors.

Building designer and owner Jason teamed concrete flooring with a black-stained timber ceiling and selected a chic wood and glass-topped dining table to reflect the surrounds. Curvaceous chairs and a cluster of Lee Broom crystal pendant lights confirm the glamour factor.

SMITTEN "It looks glamorous, but it's very homely and intimate," says Jason.

DESIGN INSIGHTS "Because the side of the house faces north, we opened up the dining area to that side and connected it to the garden," says Jason. "We wanted a fully interactive indoor-outdoor space for us and our kids."



Tonka Andjelkovic
Tonka Andjelkovic Design;
0418 479 581 or www.tonkaandjelkovicdesign.com.

GRAND STATEMENT

13 "The client wanted a living room that reflected a Parisian apartment, with plenty of detail and richness, but also with a contemporary feel," says interior designer Tonka. The wool-art silk rug lies atop European-oak flooring laid in a herringbone pattern, grounding the setting. Softly textured fabrics in a musky palette are elegant yet practical.

SMITTEN "It's calm, but with pops of colour from the artworks," says the owner, Katie.

DESIGN INSIGHTS A Living Divani chauffeuse is paired with a B&B Italia Charles sofa, Tufty-Too ottoman and W Collection rug from Whitecliffe Imports. The generously proportioned furnishings contribute to the grandeur of the room. ▶



'The client wanted a living room that reflected a Parisian apartment, with plenty of detail and richness, but also with a contemporary feel.' Tonka Andjelkovic



Robbie Nicol
Robbie Nicol Interiors;
(02) 9362 5548 or
www.robbienicol.com.

NEW YORK CALLING

14 White walls and tiled floors greeted the owners of this inner-Sydney apartment when they downsized from a four-storey terrace. "My brief was to make it feel like a New York apartment," says Robbie. "I achieved this through a frescoed wall finish, wide oak floorboards and by layering decorative items." Elegant, contemporary furniture was sourced from Italy.

SMITTEN "We love the tranquillity of the room in contrast to the busy street," says the owner. "Visitors often comment on how good the room feels."

TRY THIS AT HOME Downsizing is an opportunity for a fresh new look. "My clients sold all their antiques along with their house," says Robbie. ▶

To see Robbie take a closer look at this room, use the free viewa app and scan this page.



Photograph by John Paul Urizar. Artworks by Mike Worrall.





Adelaide Bragg
Adelaide Bragg &
Associates;
(03) 9818 6757 or
adelaidebragg.com.au.



James Russell
James Russell Architect;
0427 704 288 or
www.jrarch.com.au.

COUNTRY COMFORT

15 Originally a billiard room, this space in a turn-of-the-century home at Mt Macedon in Victoria sported a dark panelled ceiling and heavy woodwork. "The family wanted to use the room more, so decided to convert it to a winter sitting room," says interior decorator Adelaide. Sumptuous curtains, with a goblet pleat, grassweave wallpaper and custom-made lamps were added to cosy up this large space.

WE LOVE IT "Despite its size, it's warm in colour and a good place to read, talk or play piano," says the owner.

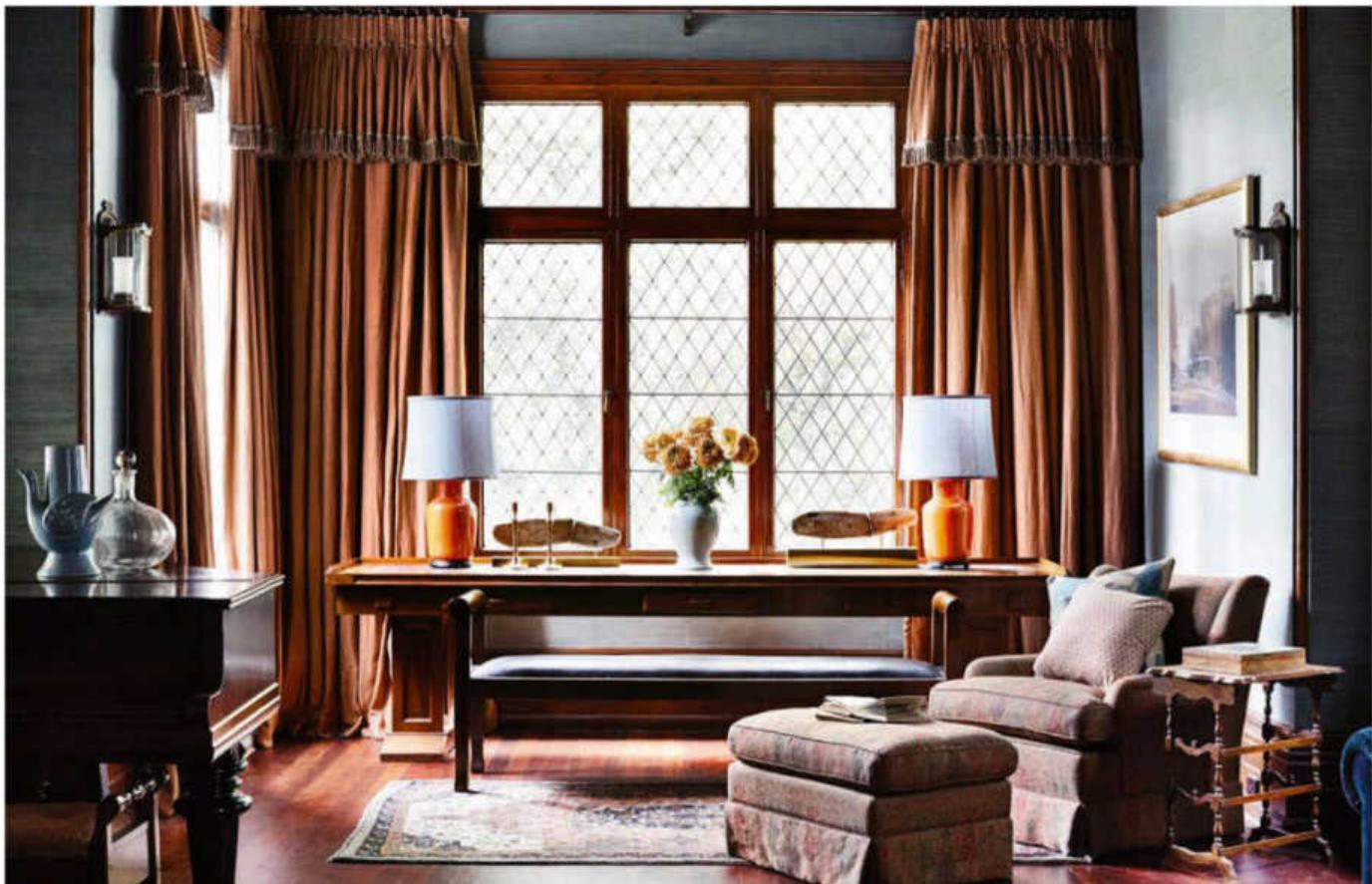
TRY THIS AT HOME Woven wallpaper lends instant warmth to any space. "The petrol-blue seagrass wallpaper adds texture and keeps the moody feel," says Adelaide.

SCREEN LEGEND

16 Designed as a series of elevated pavilions, this Brisbane home is anything but typical. The outdoor area, adjacent to the living zone, is an idyllic location to relax year-round. "The pavilions and courtyards – both walls and roof – are covered by shade cloth to provide protection from sun and insects as well as privacy from neighbouring unit blocks," says James.

SMITTEN "We liked the idea of open spaces," says the owner, Lou. "I was a bit resistant to the shade cloth at first, but when it went up, we all stood there saying 'wow'!"

DESIGN INSIGHTS Making the most of its insect-repellent 'skin', the home's doors can constantly be left open to encourage circulation between indoors and out. Reclaimed bricks were used to pave the area. ►



Photography by Derek Swalwell (this page) & Maree Homer (opposite). Portrait by Michael Gordon Hill (Adelaide).

'I wasn't sure how much we'd use the outdoor barbecue, but in winter it's lovely to sit around and toast marshmallows with the kids.' Lou



MATERIAL MIX

- ✚ Engineered-timber floors in Grey Driftwood, Woodcut.
- ✚ Island benchtop in Portsea Grey limestone, CDK Stone.
- ✚ Splashback and benchtop in Elba marble, CDK Stone.
- ✚ Kubus recessed sink, Franke.
- ✚ Teknobili pullout sink mixer, available from Reece.
- ✚ Gas cooktop, Miele.
- ✚ Two-pack polyurethane cabinetry in Dulux Natural White.
- ✚ Smed stool, Great Dane.





Miriam Fanning
Mim Design;
(03) 9826 1266 or
www.mimdesign.com.au.

SHORE THING

17 Contemporary lines are softened with tonal and textural details in this kitchen on Victoria's Mornington Peninsula. "Everything is refined but with an artisan sensibility," says senior interior designer Kristiina Morgan, who worked with Miriam on the project. A limestone island bench is combined with driftwood-toned floors and white cabinetry to round out a palette reminiscent of the rugged coastline nearby.

SMITTEN "This room is calm and relaxed, with a soft balance of coastal and modern," says the owner, Lizie.

TRY THIS AT HOME Floor-to-ceiling storage and deep drawers provide a place for everything. A well-appointed office nook is lined with engineered floorboards. ►



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Fiona Winzar
Fiona Winzar Architects;
(03) 9999 2148 or www.winzar-architects.com.au.

A FRESH ANGLE

18 "The focus was on adaptable use of space and sustainability," says Fiona of her transformation of this 1980s South Melbourne townhouse. This kitchen/dining/living area is part of a lightweight 'sky barn' built on top of the two-storey home. Height restrictions have been turned into a feature, with the room's sloped ceiling creating an "intimate experience". **I LOVE IT** "It's really warm and there is beautiful natural light from the internal lightwell," says Robert, the owner. **DESIGN INSIGHTS** Plantation bamboo and perforated acoustic panels are interesting alternatives to solid timber. These materials create instant warmth. The lightwell's vertical cladding, in sustainable silvertop ash, complements the internal finishes.



Joe Ottone & Melanie Clark
Remedy; 0423 113 959 or www.remedyonline.net.au.

VIEW FINDER

19 For their home in Yallingup, in WA's Margaret River region, Melanie and Joe wanted a bathroom that brought the surrounding bushland into the daily bathing experience. Both bath and shower are positioned to take full advantage of the view, while the toilet is neatly hidden behind a return wall with built-in open shelving for storage. Giving strength to the room are Patricia Urquiola-designed tiles and a cluster of Mod Collective pendants.

SMITTEN "The whole family just loves it," says Melanie. **TRY THIS AT HOME** "You can't beat Mother Nature, so we wanted to celebrate the bush while keeping the design simple and earthy. We used patterned tiles en masse to lift the room with an ethnic twist," says Melanie. ▶



Photography by Richard Glover (left) & James Knowler (right). Styling by Anna Flanders (right).



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SHOP THE ROOM

- ✚ Abaca-fibre rug, International Floorcoverings.
- ✚ Hans Wegner PP124 rocking chairs, Cult.
- ✚ Joinery in Evenerne Evenalmond, Elton Group.
- ✚ K2 sofa, Poliform.
- ✚ Muffin table lamps, Spence & Lyda.
- ✚ DePadova floor lamp, Dedece.
- ✚ Iko coffee table with marble top, Jardan.
- ✚ Custom-made ottoman with deer hide upholstery, Hare+Klein.
- ✚ Walls painted Porter's Paints Dusty Mule (feature) and Dulux Natural White.



Dimity Chitty (left)
& Melanie Kightley
Hare+Klein;
(02) 9368 1234 or
www.hareklein.com.au.

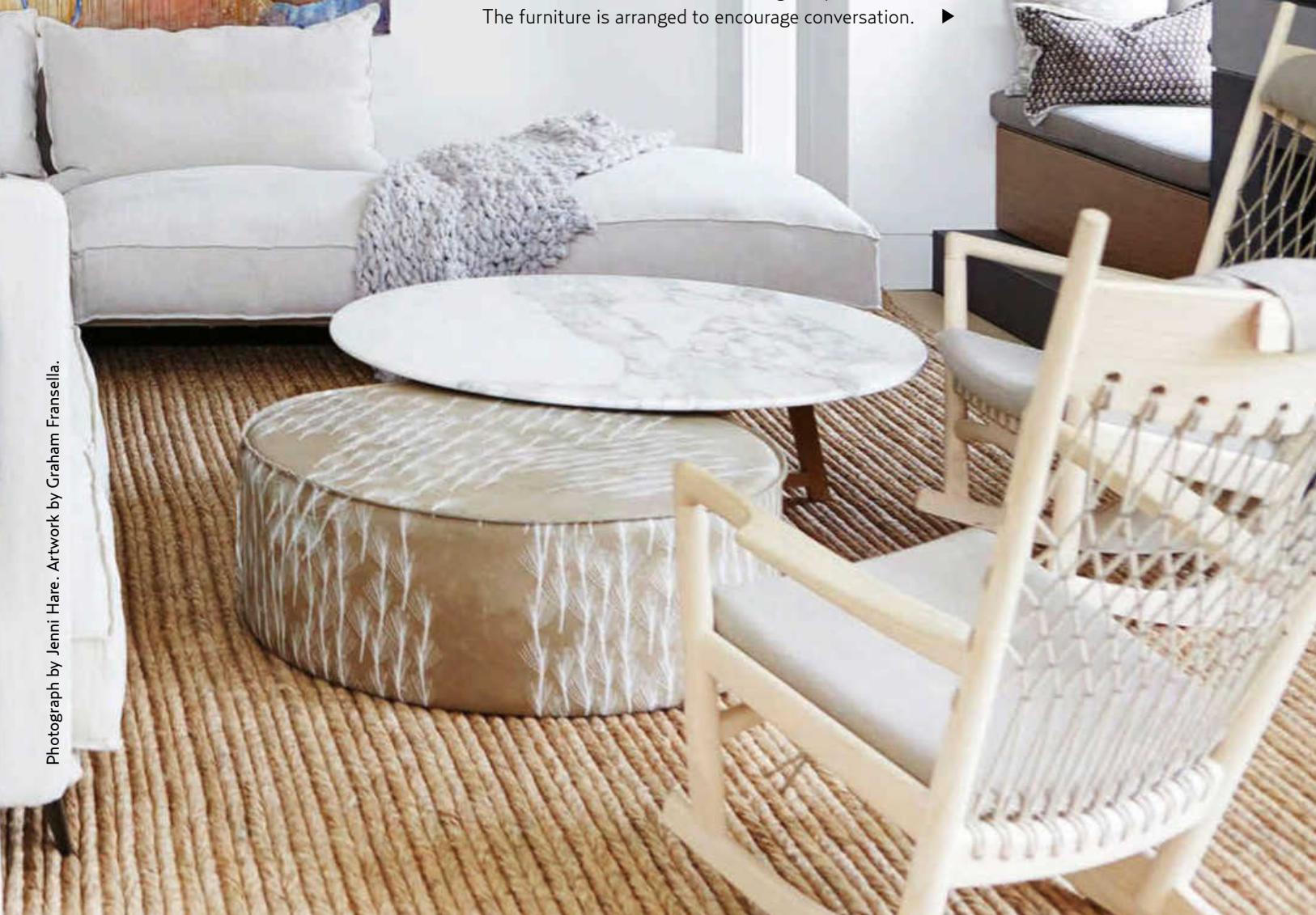
FEELING'S NEUTRAL

20 A restrained palette underpins this relaxed Sydney living room. "The owners asked us to create a light, contemporary interior in the extension of their Federation home," says interior designer Dimity. Natural fabrics are subtly layered and teamed with pale timbers to balance out the room's harder surfaces.

SMITTEN "This is our favourite room in the house," says the owner. "We love casual, relaxed living and lots of light."

TRY THIS AT HOME An artwork can anchor a room effectively. "We commissioned the painting by Graham Fransella especially for this space," says Dimity. "Its warmth, colour and movement gave us license to accessorise the room with some brighter pieces."

The furniture is arranged to encourage conversation. ▶





'The wide awning gives the owners a front row seat to the views without being at the mercy of the elements.' Stuart Vokes

Photograph by Jon Linkins. Artworks by Warlimpirnga Tjapaltjarri (on wall) & Susan Marawarr (spirit figures).



SHOP THE ROOM

- ✚ SIE sliding insect screens, Centor Architectural.
- ✚ Sofa and armchairs, Jardan.
- ✚ Ceiling painted Dulux Willow Leaf, walls painted Dulux Whisper White.



Stuart Vokes (left)
& Aaron Peters
Vokes and Peters; (07)
3846 2044 or www.vokesandpeters.com.

BREEZE WAY

21 Architects Stuart and Aaron extended this late-1800s Queenslander to the east to capitalise on its panoramic bay aspect. Low eaves act as a sun visor, while full-height sliding windows allow unobstructed views. "We were inspired by the sleep-out verandah and created a contemporary take on that," says Stuart.

SMITTEN "This room takes every possible advantage of the view but can be adjusted to cope with any weather conditions," say the owners, Jason and Anna. "The high ceiling matches the grand scale of the original house."

DESIGN INSIGHTS Floorboards are laid against the grain and a low corridor of ceiling trusses marks the place where old and new meet. ►

'We created a tranquil retreat, removed from the hustle and bustle of the family home.' Fiona Lynch





Fiona Lynch
Fiona Lynch Office;
(03) 9079 2500 or
www.fionalynch.com.au.

SHADES OF PALE

22 A fresh look at a narrow space in this elegant Melbourne terrace resulted in this serene escape from family bustle. A series of sheer curtains helps define the space and create privacy when wanted. Custom joinery, painted in neutrals with an unexpected splash of pretty pastel pink is teamed with loose linen and an emerald velvet cushion.

SMITTEN "Fiona has created a space that is beautiful, useful and wonderfully comfortable" says the owner, Jo.

DESIGN INSIGHTS Awash with natural light, the gorgeous artwork by Dan Hocking informs the colour palette and elevates the decor from simple to sophisticated. The tonal palette of greys allows the accessories to take the limelight.



Mark Pearse & Min Dark
Pearse Architects;
(02) 9282 9932 or [www.pearsearchitects.com.au](http://pearsearchitects.com.au).

GARDEN GAZING

23 Driven by the desire to make use of a sunless patch of garden, a conservatory was added to this family home in Sydney's east. The strong grid of the steel-framed windows is offset by a linen-upholstered ceiling and sheer curtains. Under-floor heating and a fireplace ensure this is a comfortable place to retreat at any time of day or year.

SMITTEN "Anyone who is new to the house is surprised to find out the room was once an unused courtyard," says the owner, Sarah. "It definitely has a happy feel."

DESIGN INSIGHTS "A new pond gives energy to a narrow strip of space between the room and boundary wall, while the upholstered panels on the ceiling reduce the impact of traffic noise," says Mark. ▶



For a video tour of this room with Mark, use the free **viewa** app and scan this page.



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CITRUS POP

24

The setting, in bushland along Victoria's Great Ocean Road, informed the look and feel of this holiday home's living room, says Camilla, who worked on this project alongside Millar Robertson Architects. She chose mainly natural materials to reference the location and added bursts of orange for energy.

I LOVE IT "This room makes me exhale and forget the busyness of my city life," says owner Roberta.

DESIGN INSIGHTS "Orange can be overpowering but it's easily played down when you use it sparingly," says Camilla. The striking coffee table was custom-designed for this room. "The orange legs give it individuality and offer enough colour to tie the room together without overwhelming it." ▶





Jacinta Preston
Jacinta Preston Design;
www.jacintapreston.com.

PATTERN PLAY

25 The decorative architectural details in this 1912 Arts & Crafts home in Sydney provided ample inspiration for a theatrical interior. The monochromatic palette ensures the intentional clash of patterns and eras appears cohesive.

SMITTEN "It's such an inviting room," says the owner, Vanessa. "I could not love it more."

TRY THIS AT HOME Warm Chevron White on White wallpaper (by Greg Natale for Porter's Paints) is a great choice for a heritage project, while fresh white trims accentuate the home's architectural details. The rug pattern plays off the ceiling's V-joint design and the print-wrapped chairs introduce another dynamic element.



Brendan Wong
Brendan Wong Design;
(02) 9699 3228 or
brendanwong.com.

MOODY MUSE

26 The dark tonality of this Sydney study, which is primarily used at night, is great for focus, while decorative accessories are curated for visual delight, says interior designer Brendan. The geometric carpet underpins the room and offsets the furniture, most of which is custom designed.

I LOVE IT "This is my favourite space in the apartment," says the owner. "I forget I'm in the CBD, and instead feel transported into a study on a luxury yacht."

TRY THIS AT HOME Deep, rich colours come into their own in smaller rooms, where they create a den-like ambience. Plentiful natural light will prevent that closed-in feeling. High-sheen elements and pops of colour create interesting highlights. ▶



Photography by John Paul Urizar (left) & Maren Homer (right). Artworks by Gloria Petyarre (left) & Jason Davis (right).

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MATERIAL MIX

- ✚ Island benchtop made from custom-fold stainless steel, Southern Stainless Fabrications.
- ✚ European oak-veneer joinery by Admor Dimensions in with custom black stain (rear) and custom limewash finish (left).
- ✚ Toss B Sphere pendant lights, Hub Furniture Lighting Living.
- ✚ Appliances, Miele.



David Burton &
Sophia Leopardi
Williams Burton Leopardi;
(08) 8223 1177 or www.designbywbl.com.au.



MASTER OF DISGUISE

27 A complex list of criteria drove the design of this Adelaide home, including 'hide the kitchen' and 'preserve the tree'. Architect David and interior designer Sophia's solution was a kitchen that can be closed up, with a sculptural island bench to distract from the practical elements. The glass splashback ensures the peppercorn tree is the hero.

SMITTEN "We wanted something eye-catching," says owner, Petra. "The faceted island bench is perfect."

DESIGN INSIGHTS A limewash finish mutes the timber, allowing the stainless steel to take centrestage. On the rear cabinetry, the timber grain is visible through the black stain, retaining the material's character. ►



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Eva-Marie Prineas
Architect Prineas;
(02) 9332 2006 or www.architectprineas.com.au.



Tania Handelmann
Tania Handelmann Interiors;
0428 066 000 or
www.handelmann.com.

OPEN SEASON

28 Located between the dining room, courtyard and a staircase, this Sydney living room had the potential to feel like a thoroughfare, but considered furnishings and a plush rug ensure it is a place everyone loves to linger. Natural light energises the zone by day; at night, the velvety textures beckon.

SMITTEN "This room has changed the way we live in, and enjoy, the house," say owners, Linda and Stephen.

DESIGN INSIGHTS While the footprint of this room is quite small, the ceiling opens up to double height. The quintet of Aim suspension lights draws the eye upwards, as do the strong verticals of the steel supports and black bookcase. The limewashed ply joinery and the greenery in the adjacent courtyard help keep a natural balance.

RICH PICKINGS

29 "I was asked to create a formal living room that was in keeping with the minimalist architecture yet didn't sacrifice richness or comfort," says Tania. She began with a handmade wool-silk rug that has both traditional and contemporary elements, building upon this foundation with custom-designed furnishings in velvet, leather, mirrored glass, marble and bronze.

I LOVE IT "It's modern and glamorous but still homely," says the owner, Gaby.

TRY THIS AT HOME Routed MDF panels and sculptural furniture create interest. Sheer curtains drop from a recessed track and allow the silhouettes of the trees to become part of the interior pattern play. ▶







Photograph by Thomas Dahhoff/Hindenburg Dahlhoff
Artworks by Miranda Stocek (paintings) & Christopher Jacrot (framed photograph). For Where to Buy, see page 106

SHOP THE ROOM

- ✚ Vintage Moroccan rug, Kulchi.
- ✚ B&B Italia Ray sofa, Space.
- ✚ Vintage Scandinavian chairs, Gamla Lan Interiors, upholstered in fabric from Tigger Hall Design.
- ✚ Swedese Breeze coffee table, Fred International.
- ✚ Mantis wall light, Spence & Lyda.
- ✚ Ottoman, Blu Dot.



Brett Mickan
Brett Mickan
Interior Design;
(02) 9690 0053 or
www.bmid.com.au.

PRETTY IN PINK

30 This alluring living room on Sydney's North Shore displays all the depth and dexterity of pink. Playing off the exposed-brick wall and glass blocks, softer touches add appeal. An elegant sofa is paired with vintage Scandi armchairs, berry-toned animal prints and a vintage Moroccan rug.

I LOVE IT "Brett took seemingly unconnected objects and made them into a cohesive whole," says the owner, Jane. "It's such a pleasure to come home to."

DESIGN INSIGHTS "A neutral backdrop allows each element to stand alone," says Brett. Mixing different styles, unexpected hues and contrasting textures gives the predominantly pink palette a grown-up feel. "The result," he says, "feels 'accidentally fabulous'." ▶

*'I feel as though I'm staying at
an incredible resort.' Siobhan*





Sarah Davison
Sarah Davison Interior
Design; (02) 9331 7810 or
www.sarahdavison.com.au.

SENSE OF SCALE

31 A centrally located four-poster bed in this bedroom on Sydney's North Shore provides a sense of theatre and capitalises on the room's generous proportions. A 3m-long painting and a lustrous brass Atollo table lamp exude opulence, but the subtlety and scale of the Isamu Noguchi Akari paper suspension light in the corner takes our breath away.

I LOVE IT "I feel as though I'm staying at an incredible resort," says the owner, Siobhan.

DESIGN INSIGHTS "The painting, *Night Pool* by Lawrence Davis, was our starting point for the scheme," says Sarah. "It anchors the space and is particularly beautiful at night." The eclectic mix of vintage and new furnishings adds personality and depth.



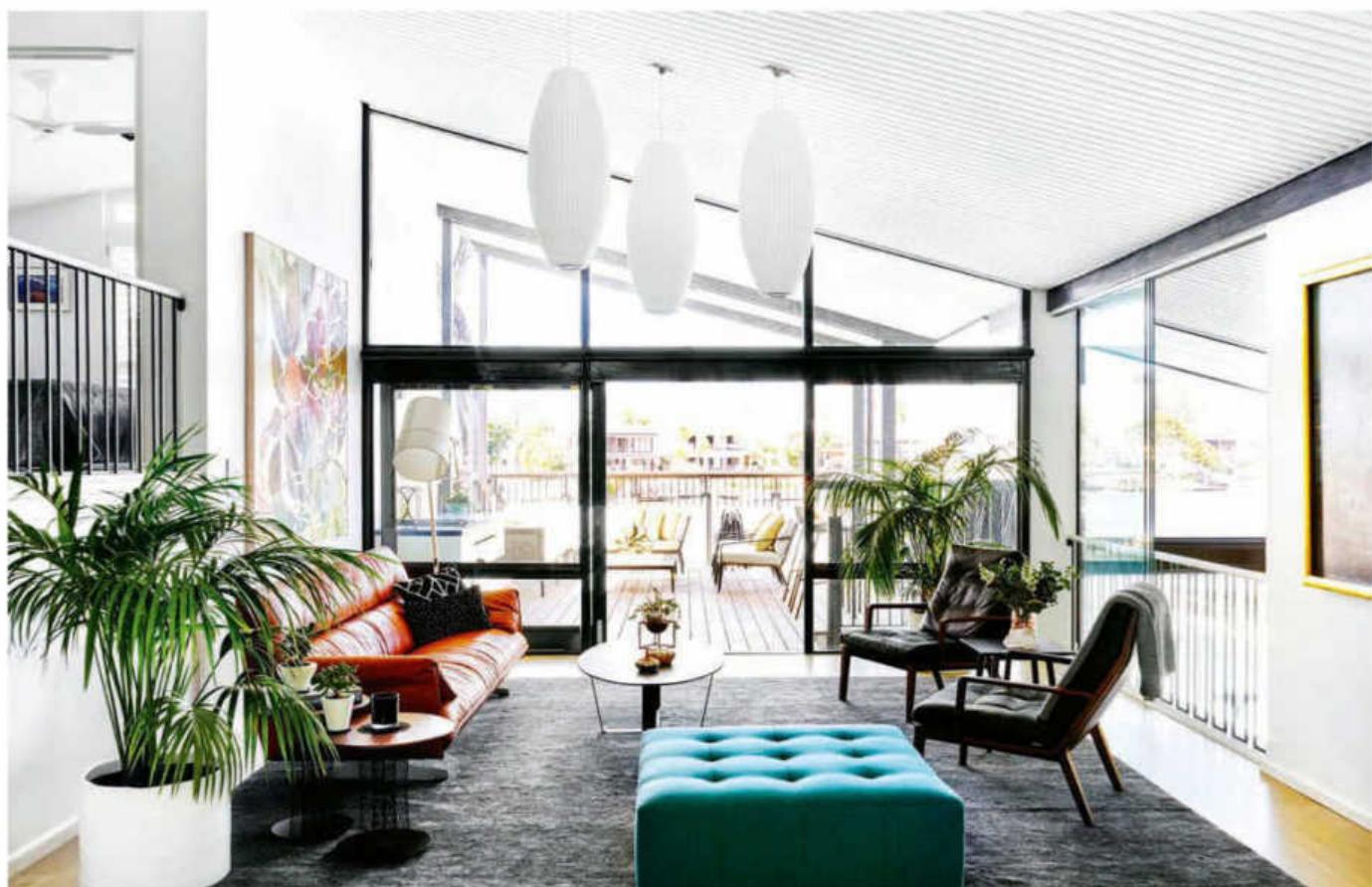
Paul Uhlmann
Paul Uhlmann Architects;
(07) 5534 1118 or
www.pua.com.au.

GOOD VIBES

32 Reinstating mid-century features has brought this sitting room on Queensland's Gold Coast to life. Pine battens affixed to the ceiling and painted Ecolour Natural White turn the raked ceiling into a feature and the contoured furnishings are in tune with the retro feel.

SMITTEN "This room is the hub of our home," says the owner, David. "It gives us great pleasure to be able to enjoy this environment every day."

TRY THIS AT HOME Carefully positioned lighting and large rug help anchor this sitting room in a walk-through zone. A cluster of George Nelson Cigar pendant lights are the centrepiece, and when more light is called for, the Foscarini Fork floor lamp comes into play. ▶





Jade Vidal, Chema Bould & Anna Dutton (left to right)
Bower Architecture and
Interiors; (03) 9521 2552 or
www.bowerarchitecture.com.au.

RETRO REWARDS

33

The interiors of this Melbourne home are in harmony with its Modernist roots. The milky white walls and ceiling (painted Haymes Paint Marble Mist) are illuminated when sunshine streams in through a floor-to-ceiling window, while the custom-made pendant light, reminiscent of branches, breaks up the precision of the space. The sideboard is made from cabinet fronts salvaged from the original home.

I LOVE IT "It's warm, intimate and incredibly tranquil," says the owner, Stephen.

TRY THIS AT HOME A carpet with depth grounds an airy space. Here, a mid-grey pile carpet is perfectly paired with the dark table top. Elegant upholstered chairs, from Globe West, keep diners comfortable. ►

To see more of this
home, turn to page 26.

A



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Tom Ferguson
TFAD; (02) 9331 2611
or www.tfad.com.au.

OPEN PLAN

34 A tweaking of the floor plan gave this 1920s apartment in Sydney's east a bigger, brighter kitchen. The central bench, made from the same engineered walnut as the floor, functions as both extra prep area and casual dining space, and acts as a focal point and zone divider in a now open-plan room.

I LOVE IT "It is a beautiful and functional kitchen as well as a great place to have fun with our friends and family," says the owner, Jamie.

DESIGN INSIGHTS A mirrored-glass splashback helps create the illusion of a roomier space and the open shelving unit works to visually and physically connect the rooms. Danish pendant lights and stools are a light touch around the cantilevered bench.



Stewart Horton
Horton & Co Design;
(02) 4957 1672 or
www.hortonandco.com.au.

CHECK MATE

35 This family room, in an island home on the North Coast of NSW, has been transformed into a space that is enjoyed year-round. Picking up on the geometry of the architecture, grid patterns — the plaid rug, vintage sofa, strap-backed armchairs and the cushions — have been layered to create a palpable sense of energy.

SMITTEN "It's bold, playful and chic," says the owner, Amanda. "We just love the classic black and white."

TRY THIS AT HOME A limited colour scheme allows prints to take centrestage, creating maximum impact without making the room feel too busy. Touches of blush and rose gold introduce femininity and softness to an otherwise structured space. ▶



Photography by Tom Ferguson (this page) & Jane Kelly (opposite). For Where to Buy, see page 236.

SHOP THE ROOM

- ✚ Vintage Kubus sofa.
- ✚ Plaid rug, Dash & Albert Rug Company.
- ✚ Coffee table and armchairs, Max Sparrow.
- ✚ Lamp, Empire Furniture Newcastle.
- ✚ Cushions, Sparkk.
- ✚ Interior painted Dulux Lexicon, quarter strength.
- ✚ Exterior painted Dulux Grey Pebble, quarter strength, with Dulux Wayward Grey timberwork.







Anna Flanders
Stylist 0410 551 048.
Dean Humphrey
Humphrey Homes
(08) 9284 5444 or www.humphreyhomes.com.au.

SLEEPING SANCTUARY

36 The brief Dean and Anna were given for this bedroom was to recreate the easy-breezy sophistication of plantation homes, Queenslanders and safari lodges all rolled into one. The antique colonial bed and Ethiopian stools give the room authenticity. Egyptian glass pendant lights are used instead of bedside lamps to dial up the romance.

I LOVE IT "It has a beautiful ambience and is quite romantic," says the owner, Tania.

TRY THIS AT HOME "I felt it was important to ground the look in authentic forms, deep wood tones and textural ethnic-inspired textiles," says Anna. Softness and romance were added through the artwork and pendant lights, which are on dimmer switches.



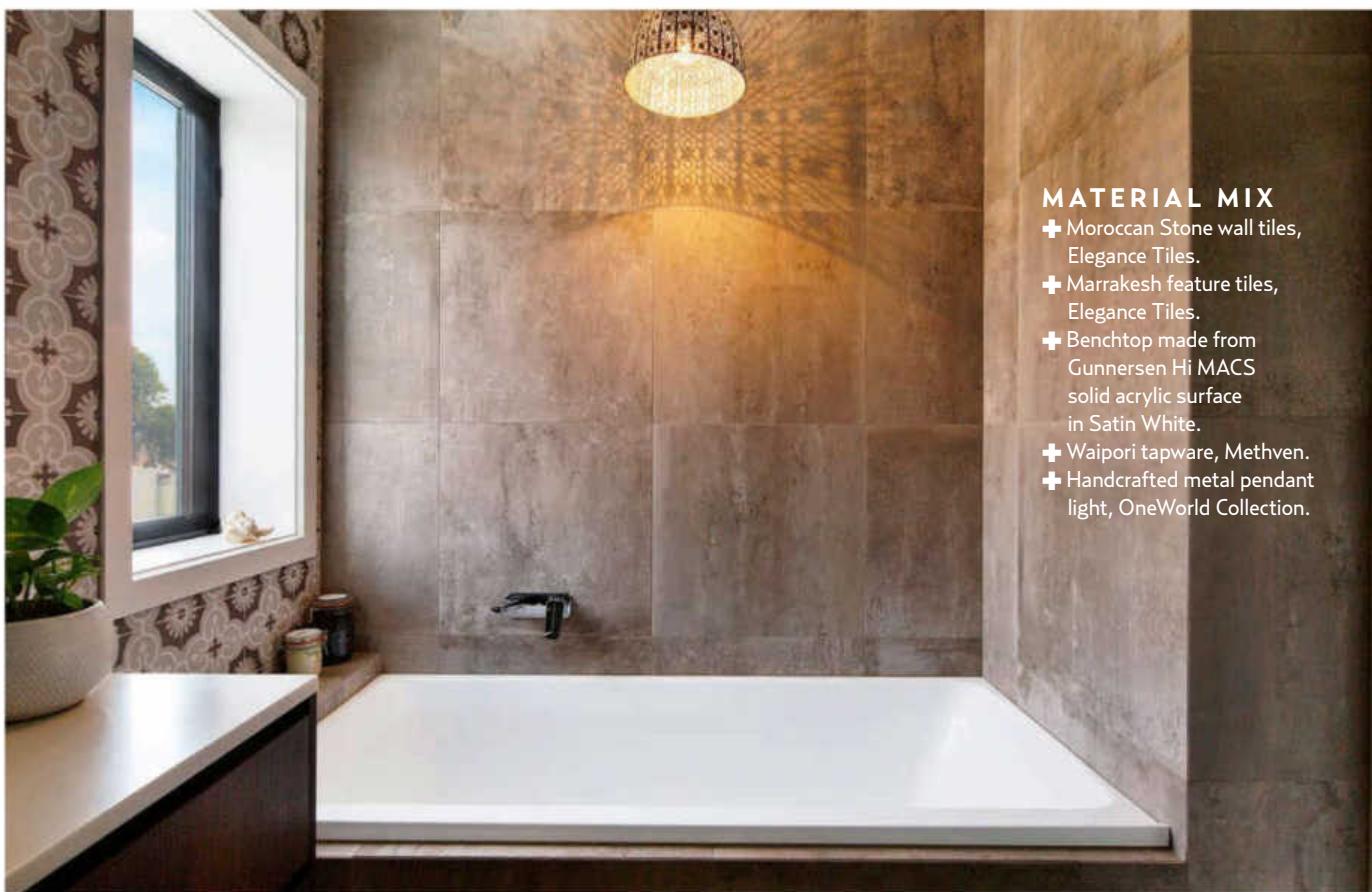
Frances Cosway
White Pebble Interiors;
0401 194 095 or www.whitepebbleinteriors.com.au.

AFRICAN INTERLUDE

37 Moroccan style influenced the fit-out of this bathroom in Melbourne's south. Owner-designer Frances first sought out tiles that were reminiscent of *tadelakt*, a traditional Moroccan lime-plaster finish, then selected a metal pendant light that casts intricate patterns on the wall when lit.

SMITTEN "The combination of darker wall tiles and stippled light makes the room feel cocoon-like," says Frances. "People always want to touch the tiles."

TRY THIS AT HOME A compact bathroom becomes an indulgent hideaway with the use of textured large-format tiles and ambient lighting. The weathered patina is warm and comforting, while accents of crisp white keep the room feeling fresh and contemporary. ▶



MATERIAL MIX

- ✚ Moroccan Stone wall tiles, Elegance Tiles.
- ✚ Marrakesh feature tiles, Elegance Tiles.
- ✚ Benchtop made from Gunnersen Hi MACS solid acrylic surface in Satin White.
- ✚ Waipori tapware, Methven.
- ✚ Handcrafted metal pendant light, OneWorld Collection.



Leigh Boswell
Highgate House;
(07) 3256 0860 or
www.highgatehouse.com.au.

BLUE CUES

38 This dining room in a grand Brisbane home has soaring ceilings and a glamorous high-gloss floor. With walls painted in Resene Thorndon Cream and furniture that is both elegant and practical, it's a room with a 'smart casual' feel, easily dressed up or down as required.

WE LOVE IT "It's so open and airy," say owners, Cindy and Glenn. "And we adore the light fitting."

TRY THIS AT HOME The iron pendant light with parchment shades is in keeping with the scale and drama of the cathedral ceiling yet doesn't detract attention from the arched window. The dining chairs are upholstered in petrol-blue leather, which is both eye-catching and practical in a family home.



Natasha Levak
Coco Republic;
(02) 9318 1442 or
www.cocorepublic.com.au.

LESSONS IN LUXE

39 Once cramped and unloved, this powder room in a 1930s Art Deco home on Sydney's North Shore is now totally gorgeous. Wall panelling was custom designed for the space and 'crowned' with Schumacher Palm Damask wallpaper.

SMITTEN "I love the wallpaper's cheerful motif and soft, two-toned effect," says the owner, Linda. "Guests often comment on it and the beautiful wall panelling."

TRY THIS AT HOME The symmetrical placement of the wall sconces and the monogrammed hand towel sets up a formal elegance. This is enhanced by the chrome details in the mirror, vanity, shelving, and rubbish bin. A cluster of toiletries on a pretty platter is a welcome note. ▶



Photography by Rix Ryan Photography (left), Kara Rosenblum (Leigh) & Maree Homer (right).

Genius begins from the floor up.



**Judith Barrett-Lennard**

Judith Barrett-Lennard
Interior Design;
(08) 9384 2866
or www.jbldesign.com.au.

PURPLE REIGN

40 Designed for a client who is wild about colour, this Perth sitting room is bursting with personality. Working closely with Grounds Kent Architects, Judith has created a space in which her client can relax, read and enjoy the outlook to the adjacent internal courtyard.

SMITTEN "It's bold and surprising, yet solidly anchored by the painterly rug," says the owner.

DESIGN INSIGHTS Vivid colour should be used in context with the architecture that envelops it, says Judith. "My client really wanted the architecture to shine through. We opted for bright colours but pared them back with a dark grasscloth wallcovering, understated cushions and brass light fittings."

**Stacey Kouros**

Stacey Kouros Design;
(02) 9380 8748 or www.staceykourosdesign.com.

BALANCING ACT

41 Furniture and objects collected while living abroad became the foundations of this playful formal dining room in Sydney's east. The Schumacher Chiang Mai Dragon fabric on the dining chairs is a witty reference to the Chinese cabinet. Subtle textures in the Fornasetti Clouds wallpaper, plaster-wrapped chandelier and rug are the glue that binds the space.

I LOVE IT "Although it is our formal dining room, it is comfortable, with an element of quirkiness and fun," says the owner.

TRY THIS AT HOME Attention to detail is key to this room's success. Subtle textures, tailored lines and a real sense of order provide structure for the lively upholstery and artwork to rebel against.





Steve Koolloos
MCK Architects;
(02) 9211 4146 or www.mckarchitects.com.

BLURRED LINES

42

Situated at the rear of a Californian bungalow in Sydney's east, this dramatic kitchen boasts an inspiring combination of materials. The rustic floor, fashioned from recycled bricks, continues outdoors and the island bench, inspired by a butcher's block, is tallowwood. "Light is borrowed from above and the kitchen engages with the garden so the boundary between inside and out is completely erased," says Steve.

SMITTEN "We love the 'chopping block' bench and the way the light comes in from all angles," says owner, Jane.

DESIGN INSIGHTS The smoked-mirror splashback and joinery extend from kitchen to barbecue area to enhance the indoor-outdoor connection. ▶



Vote for your favourite room. Use the viewa app, scan this page and follow the prompts. For more details on how to enter, see page 127.







Marylou Sobel
Marylou Sobel Interior Design;
(02) 9130 5899 or
www.marylousobel.com.au.

EARTH CALLING

43 Inspired by its outlook over Sydney Harbour, Marylou drew on a palette of amber, misty blues and driftwood for this sitting room.

It is serene and beautifully detailed: the side tables were custom-made from an old fence and the pendant light created from a weathered barrel. Luxe textiles lift the look to refined but relaxed. Concentric rectangles in the artwork pick up on architectural details in the ceiling.

SMITTEN "It is a haven of warmth and comfort, and the textures of the fabrics are so inviting," says the owner, Bev.

TRY THIS AT HOME The muted palette selected for the 'afternoon nap' sofa responds to the earthy colours in the artwork without seeking an exact match.



Belinda Nihill
Nest Design Studio;
0407 422 758 or www.nestdesignstudio.com.au.

BOYS' CLUB

44 Personalised by degrees but part of an edgy whole, this shared bedroom in Bendigo, Victoria, was designed in a style that would see Charles, four, and Hugh, six, into their teens. A white-washed brick wallpaper gives the room industrial cred, while knitted and handmade accessories, including bespoke blankets from The Knit Studio at the end of their beds, round out a fun yet practical bedroom.

SMITTEN "It's a room that puts up with a lot of rough and tumble but still looks amazing," says the owner.

TRY THIS AT HOME "This room is all about texture, warmth and fun," says Belinda. "By using black as an anchor, it will grow with the boys and allows little bursts of colour to shine through." ▶





Jane Stark
Stark Design;
(02) 9966 9322 or
www.starkdesign.com.au.

FINE FORM

45 The interior of this living room, in a heritage-listed 1890s home in Sydney's east, needed to pay heed to the formality of its Federation and Victorian architecture while staying in line with the contemporary renovation by architect Dale Jones-Evans. "The new interior reflects the home's architectural journey," says Jane.

I LOVE IT "It oozes luxury and mixes old and new – just like the home itself," says the owner.

DESIGN INSIGHTS Contemporary and vintage furnishings combine to create the sense that the decor has evolved over time. The repetition of furniture – sofas, armchairs, side tables, lamps and sconces – is an easy way to establish a formal air.



Sally Richardson
Sally Richardson
Interior Architecture;
0406 320 104.

TABLE TALK

46 A turned-leg dining table with marble top is centred against a beautifully framed picture window in this white-on-white Melbourne room. "The Bertoia chairs are upholstered in a subtle patterned fabric that pays tribute to the 1950s, the era in which the chairs were designed, while still remaining contemporary," says Sally. The Flos Skygarden pendant light is a graphic punctuation point.

SMITTEN "The family loves gathering in this bright and airy yet intimate space," says the owner, Jennifer.

TRY THIS AT HOME The kitchen cabinetry extends through to the dining area, creating ample storage for this family of avid entertainers and a prime spot for growing pots of herbs. ▶



Photography by Jason Busch (this page), Daniel Shipp (Jane Stark) & Martina Gemmola (opposite). Sculpture by Jock Clutterbuck (opposite).



SHOP THE ROOM

- ✚ Gervasoni Grey 33 dining table with Carrara marble top, Anibou.
- ✚ Knoll Bertoia chairs, Dedece, upholstered in Galbraith & Paul Ovals, Tigger Hall Design.
- ✚ Flos Skygarden pendant light, Euroluce.
- ✚ Rug, Armadillo&Co.
- ✚ Carrara marble benchtop.
- ✚ Vintage Orion series candlesticks by Fritz Nagel.





Shaun Lockyer
Shaun Lockyer Architects;
(07) 3257 7288 or www.lockyerarchitects.com.au.

SUNNY SIDE UP

47 A partial wall at the top level of this Brisbane outdoor room, clad in the same weatherboard as the house, has strategic apertures to control where the sunlight falls. Built-in banquette seating extends to form the hearth for the outdoor fireplace; versatile furnishings can be moved at will.

SMITTEN "It gives us the opportunity to be outside regardless of the weather," says owner Narelle.

DESIGN INSIGHTS Charcoal, concrete and splatter render set a raw and industrial aesthetic, punctuated with a water feature in a Mediterranean turquoise tile. "The sound of running water from the courtyard drifts through the interior, adding life and tranquillity to the home," says Shaun.



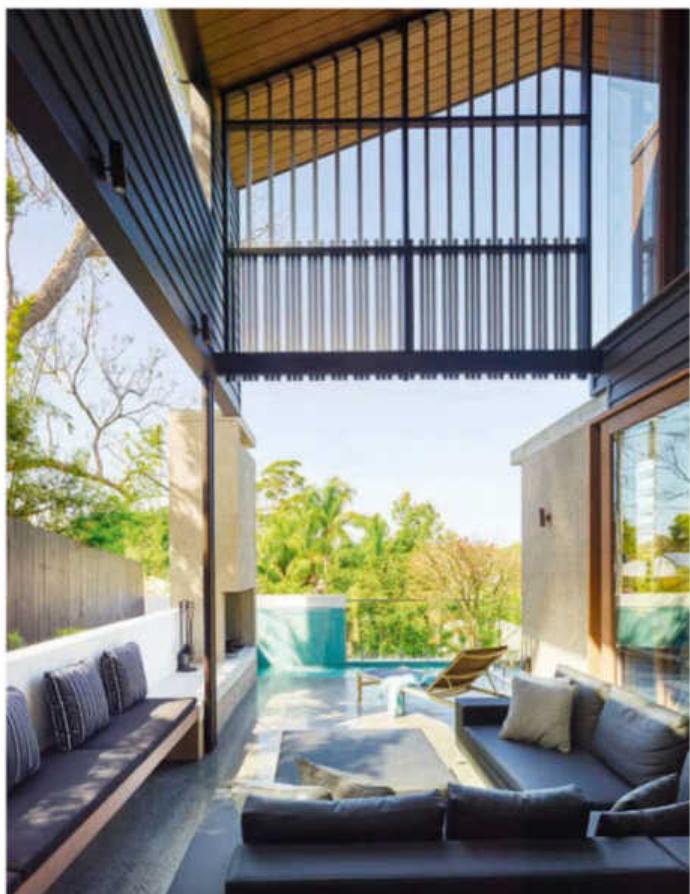
Nina Maya Skrzynski
Nina Maya Interiors;
www.ninamaya.com.

FUTURE PROOF

48 Designed with all age groups in mind, this playroom in Sydney's east features a grown-up colour scheme of aubergine, smoke and white plus a medley of interesting shapes and textures to excite the senses. Accessories will change as the children age.

SMITTEN "I love this room because it is playful yet has the same level of sophistication and refined finishes as the rest of our home," says the owner, Lauren.

TRY THIS AT HOME The comfortable upholstered banquette seating has deep drawers beneath it, making it easy for the children to stow their toys after playtime. An adult-sized desk and leather chair mean older family members utilise the space too. ▶



Photography by Scott Burrows (left), Felix Forest (right) & Ellis Parrinder (Nina).



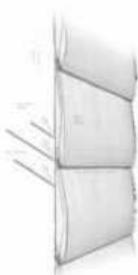
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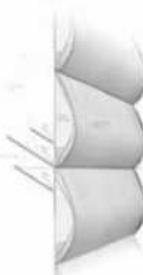
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Andrew Mitchell
Mr Mitchell;
0402 028 103
or www.mrmitchell.com.au.

REFLECTED GLORY

49 Interior designer Andrew collaborated with Anthony Pie Architects to redesign this stately period home in Melbourne. The combination of marble, mirror and steel-framed windows is dazzling, while the pretty effects – Venetian glaze on the walls, an ornate chandelier and antique French bench – help instil theatrical grandeur.

I LOVE IT "It is beauty and simplicity, splashed with a little colour and drama," says the owner.

TRY THIS AT HOME A wall clad entirely in mirror amplifies the light and affirms the luxe factor. Glass shelves provide a beautiful place for display. Murano glass chandelier and Vistosi Diamante wall lights add just the right amount of decoration. ▶





Photograph by Andrew Wuttke.

Now choose your favourite room!

Tell us your favourite room, quoting the number (1-50), and answer, in 25 words or fewer: "What do you love about the room?" and you could win a Mendoza sofa, ottoman and cushions (valued at \$5165) from Warwick Fabrics. Don't forget to include your full name, address and phone number! Voting opens September 7, 2015.

HOW TO ENTER

ONLINE Visit www.homestolove.com.au/top50rooms and follow the prompts to enter.

POST to Top 50 Rooms Competition, *Australian House & Garden*, GPO Box 4088, Sydney NSW 1028.

EMAIL H>op50@bauer-media.com.au with the subject Top 50 Rooms Reader's Choice.

VIEWA on pages 89, 104, 119.



Voting opens September 7, 2015 and closes 11.59pm (AEDST) on 4 October, 2015. Open to Australian residents aged 18 years and over. One entry permitted per person. Full terms and conditions available at www.bauer-media.com.au/terms/competition-terms. See Contents page for location of our Privacy Notice. If you do not want your information provided to any organisation not associated with this promotion, please indicate this clearly in your entry. Promoter is Bauer Media Pty Limited (ABN 18 053 273 546).

Vote now!

Choose your favourite room then turn to page 127 for details on how to lodge your vote.



Shareen Joel
Shareen Joel Design;
0417 552 265 or
www.sjdesign.com.au.

STILL LIFE

50

Shareen gave her own home, an Art Deco abode in Melbourne, a moody new look with a smoky colour scheme and a thoughtful selection of iconic designs. The Eero Saarinen Tulip table lines up with the angular Gio Ponti 699 and Fronzoni '64 chairs, a curvaceous Thonet bentwood chair in-between. Overhead is a Potence wall light by Jean Prouv  while a Ligne Roset Togo settee is in the foreground.

SMITTEN "Working with key furniture favourites, we created a palette that is moody with a subtle sophistication," says Shareen.

DESIGN INSIGHTS A clever case of life imitating art: the dining setting and light fitting configuration mimics the composition in the artwork.

H&G

Photograph by Eve Wilson.
Artwork by Claudia Damichi.



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WARWICK



1940s



1950s



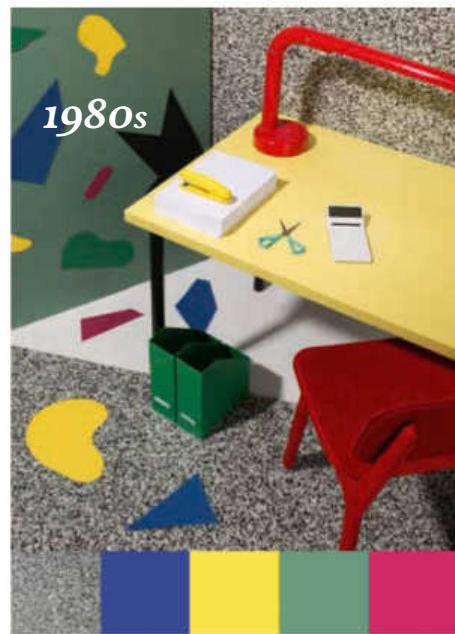
1960s



1970s

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1980s



1990s



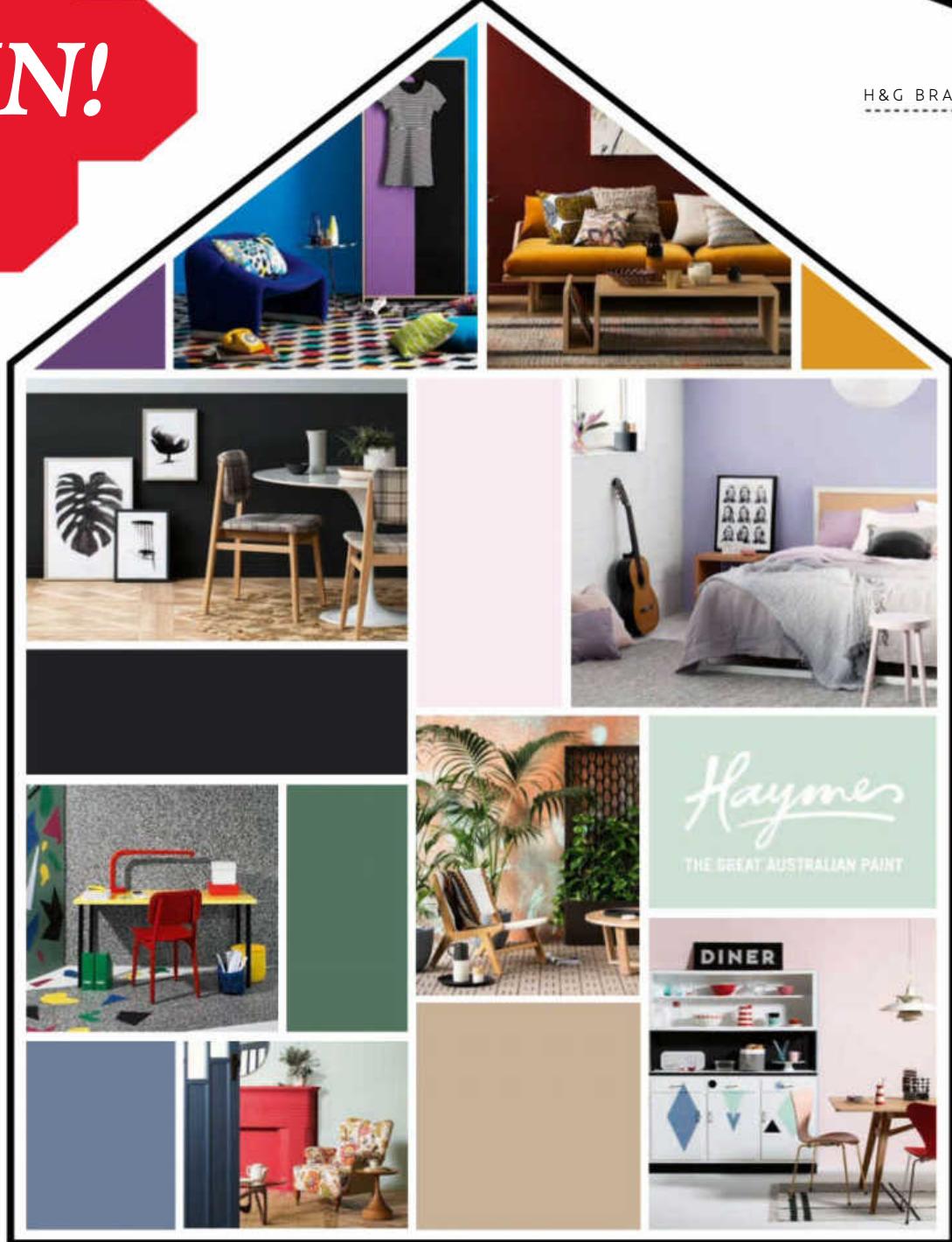
2000s



2010s

WIN!

H & G BRAND PROMOTION



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To enter, simply visit www.haymespaint.com.au/houseandgardencomp and follow the prompts.

The promotion commences at 9am AEST September 7, 2015 and closes at 5pm AEDST October 30, 2015. This promotion is a game of skill and chance plays no part in determining the winner. One entry permitted per person. Entry is open to Australian House & Garden readers who are Australian residents aged 18 years and over. Draw will take place November 4, 2015 at 11am (AEDST) at the Promoter's place of business. For full terms and conditions go to www.haymespaint.com.au/houseandgardencomp. See Contents page for location of Privacy Notice.

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*At home with
luggage designer
and retailer
Ben Palmer*

Styling by Ashley Pratt. Photograph by John Paul Urizar.

INSIDER

NEWS & REVIEWS / DESIGN MOMENT

BEN PALMER *Vintage Luggage Company*

The luxurious east Sydney apartment Ben shares with his husband Joshua and their Maltese terrier, Benji, is full of handsome finds.

MY FAVE THINGS

(see previous page)

Top hat Bought for a *Moulin Rouge!*-themed party we hosted.

Trunks Some of the very special pieces from our store. Hopefully they'll never sell!

Chair This is an old piece of my mother's that we had reupholstered.

Throw Who doesn't love a splash of Hermès?

Cushions Our good friend Poppy O'Neill from Poco Designs made them for us.

Rug From Robyn Cosgrove Rugs, it was custom designed and made in Nepal.

Succulents An engagement gift. I'm amazed I haven't killed it yet!

Gold candle Joshua and I made a beeline for the Ralph Lauren store when in New York recently. This is one of the treasures we found.

Sculpture Something I made at art school. It's a reminder of my youthful creativity.

Artwork This beauty is an eBay find. I buy most of my art online.

Candlestick Bought in Melbourne. My mother-in-law and I share the pair. (02) 9328 4800 or www.vintageluggage.com.au.



WHERE BEN SHOPS FOR...
HOMEWARES: MAISON ET JARDIN, BUSATTI. GIFTS: ONDENE. FURNITURE: COCO REPUBLIC. BOOKS: OSCAR & FRIENDS BOOKSELLERS.

SPACED OUT

Inspired by interstellar clouds, the tactile Orbit range of handmade resin homewares is out of this world. Our pick of the crop are the Nebula footed bowl (19x7cm), \$135, and Capsule planter (10x15cm), \$68. Mooku; www.mooku.com.au.



GUILD THE LILY

English country charm meets Italian sophistication in the latest range of mosaics by Bisazza. The collection, including Alexandria, below, reinterprets four of the floral fabrics of British designer Tricia Guild, designer and founder of Designers Guild, turning her cascading, oversized blooms into vibrant frescoes of shimmering glass. www.bisazza-australia.com.au.



STORY OF A BRAND *Husqvarna*



1689

Company is founded in Sweden as a maker of muskets.



1872

Demand for guns falls. The firm adds sewing machines to its line.



1903

Engineers turn their expertise to motorbikes and home appliances.



Vanity flair

Local design hero Zuster is bringing its signature style to the bathroom. Commissioned by Reece, the Issy Ballerina vanity unit (left) and Issy Butterfly furniture collection include thoughtful elements like integrated laundry baskets and dedicated shaving cabinets. www.reece.com.au.

CHANNEL VINTAGE HOLLYWOOD AND SERVE YOUR DRINKS FROM THIS ADMIRAL BAR CART, \$799, FROM THE GLAMOROUS NEW KEN FULK FOR POTTERY BARN COLLECTION.
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NUMBER CRUNCH



Miele
Sjaak Brouwer,
managing director,
Miele Australia &
New Zealand

1899 foundation year

German engineer Carl Miele and businessman Reinhard Zinkann found Miele & Cie and begin making cream separators and butter churns.

In 1903, the company produces its first washing machine, the Model A.

95 countries

Now in its fourth continuous generation of family ownership, Miele sells appliances in more than 95 countries.

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In the past 12 months, more than 50,000 people have visited the seven Miele Experience Centres around Australia.

100+ automatic programs

The Miele Generation 6000 ovens feature automatically regulated cooking processes to ensure perfect results. These include programs for pavlova and rack of lamb.

6-star energy efficiency

Superior heat-pump technology means most of Miele's tumble dryers have a 6-star energy rating. The latest models calculate residual moisture content to prevent over- or under-drying, saving time and energy use.

30 per cent

The average amount of 'extra' washing powder or liquid most people add to their washload.

55 per cent

Front-loaders in use in Australia – up from 20 per cent 10 years ago.

www.miele.com.au



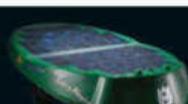
1959

Husqvarna 90, the world's first chainsaw, hits the market.



1985

The Rider ride-on mower is born and revolutionises garden maintenance.



1995

Solar Mower, the first robo mower to run on solar power, is launched.



2011

The Automower 305 robo mower can cut lawns up to 500m².

SILVER LININGS

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The whole limited-edition collection will be sold via online auction at www.armadillo-co.com from September 14-20, with all proceeds going to The Anganwadi Project, PLUS we have one to give away!

To enter, email H&Gcompetition@bauer-media.com.au with the subject 'Armadillo&Co Competition' and include your full name, address and telephone number, then tell us in 25 words or fewer: 'What would an Armadillo&Co rug add to your home?'. Alternatively, use the free *viewa* app, scan this page and follow the prompts to enter.



The Promotion commences at 00:01am (AEST) September 7, 2015 and closes 11.59pm (AEDST) October 4, 2015. One entry permitted per person. Entry is open to *H&G* readers who are Australian residents aged 18+. For full terms and conditions go www.bauer-media.com.au/terms/competition-terms. If you do not want your information provided to any organisation not associated with this competition please indicate this clearly on your entry. See page 236 for Privacy Notice. The Promoter is Bauer Media Pty Ltd (ABN 18 053 273 546).

FAIR GAME

With 250 exhibitors and 90-odd designers airing their wares, last month's Decor + Design and AIFF 2015 proved a happy hunting ground.

PICTURED RIGHT

clockwise from left Harto Modeste mirror with beech shelf, \$563, Clickon Furniture. clickonfurniture.com.au.

Soma wood and concrete planters (70-130cm high), from \$3700/each, Hype Lifestyle; www.hypelifestyle.com.au. Take Little Table flat-pack bamboo table with brass dowels, \$175, Red Block; www.redblock.com.au.

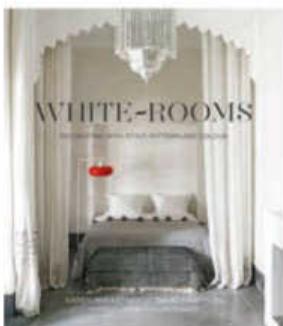
Agave credenza by RMIT student Richard Greenacre, made from FSC European beech with hand-cast acrylic tiles, POA. www.richardgreenacre.com.au. decordesignshow.com.au.



decor
+ design
finds

**Read**

Combining case studies of gorgeous homes from around the world with stunning photography and chapters of exceedingly practical advice, *White Rooms: Decorating With Style, Pattern and Colour* by Karen McCartney and David Harrison (Lantern, \$59.99) shares myriad ways to make white work wonders in your home.

**DOMESTIC BLISS****Face time**

In the digital age, the painted portrait reveals a soulful quality that is often lost in the gloss of photography. US painter Rose Freymuth-Frazier says a great deal of her work is about upending traditional gender roles. Unlike the classical image of a woman in profile or evasive reflection, she deliberately maintains frontal eye contact, rendering her sitters subjects rather than objects. As part of a new wave of American realists, Freymuth-Frazier threads elements of

tradition and allegory through her work. In *Summer's Ambrosia* (left), a woman is drinking tea, but there is also a back story. The painter created a portrait of her step-sister as a woman in an everyday domestic setting engaged with the deeper themes of mortality: "The teacup holds the composition together, but also holds the meaning of the painting", she says. "In Ancient Greek mythology, ambrosia is the food or drink of the gods, conferring longevity or immortality upon whoever

consumed it. I often paint friends and family because there is an added intimacy. Summer, my step-sister, will be 40 this year. She is, and always has been, stunning. So *Summer's Ambrosia* is more or less about the wish for immortality, even by someone who already appears to be a goddess."

– Anna Johnson
See Rose Freymuth-Frazier's work at the *Les Petit Four* exhibition on October 22 at Friends of Leon Gallery, 82 Marlborough St, Surry Hills, NSW.

H&G



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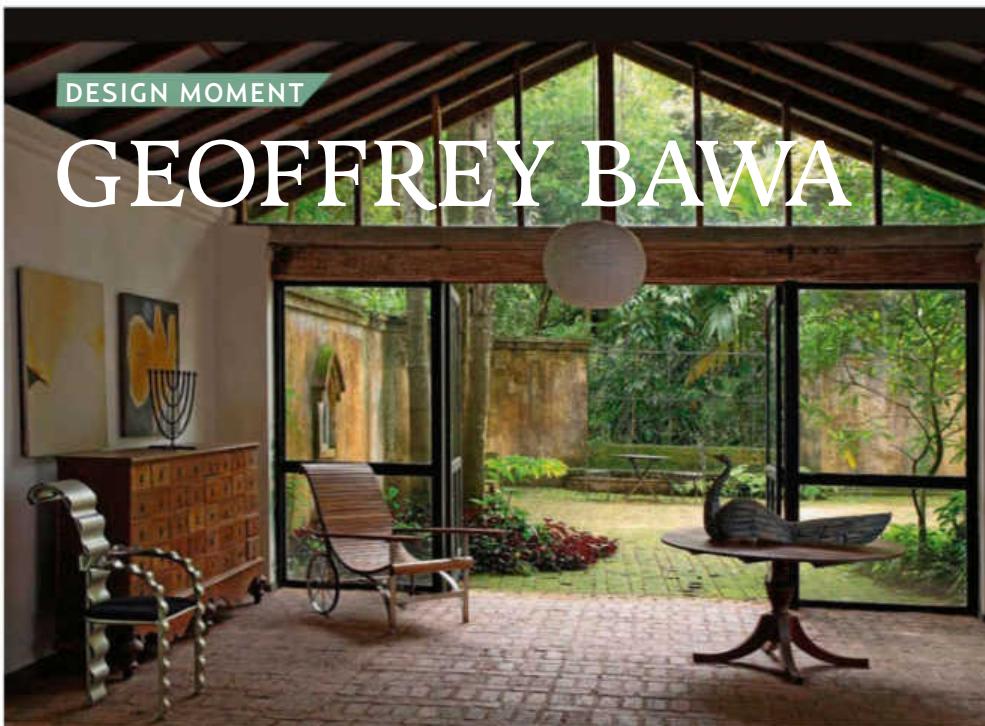
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DESIGN MOMENT

GEOFFREY BAWA



The architect's desire to transform a rundown Sri Lankan estate led to the birth of breezy tropical modernism, writes **Chris Pearson**.

When Sri Lankan lawyer Geoffrey Bawa bought the Lunuganga Estate in Ceylon, as it was then known, it would change the direction of his life. It was 1947 and on this ho-hum tract of land, he set about creating a tropical paradise that would reflect both his island childhood and early adult years spent in Europe. But lacking the tools to realise his vision, he began an architectural apprenticeship in the island's capital, Colombo. That wasn't enough for Bawa, so he left for London to study architecture. He graduated in 1957, aged 38.

Upon his return to Sri Lanka, this late bloomer didn't let the grass grow under his feet. In transforming Lunuganga, he not only became the architectural father of his native island, he helped pioneer tropical modernism. His muses were Le Corbusier and UK duo Maxwell Fry and Jane Drew, who brought the Modernist aesthetic to the far-flung reaches of the British Empire, including

west Africa and India. But this was Modernism with a twist – combining crisp, clean lines with features dictated by the local climate and topography.

His bungalows, often without external walls and with rooms flowing seamlessly into each other, shook stuffy colonial architecture to its foundations. Clean white walls were offset by chocolate-hued antique teak chests and tiled patios, sweeping palms and classically inspired columns. And pots ("they civilise a landscape," Bawa once remarked) peppered courtyards and sprawling green lawns.

Melbourne landscape designer Rick Eckersley has been a fan for decades. "He considered the landscape as much as he did his architecture," says Eckersley. "Inside became outside and outside became inside harmoniously."

While every detail was carefully conceived, Bawa's creations have an impromptu quality. "His work appeared

simple and organic, with everything linked in a natural way," says Eckersley. "Textures, colours, materials and plants were beautifully blended, but also very considered. Bawa manipulated the landscape greatly, but the finished article appeared totally natural."

Bawa died in 2003 but visitors to Sri Lanka can experience his world. Lunuganga Estate has six suites faithfully preserved for guests. Blending modern and traditional, indoors and out, all his trademarks are present. His city pied-à-terre, Number 11 at 33rd Lane, Bagatelle Road, Colombo, also offers a suite for paying guests. It consists of four small bungalows that he fused over a decade into one maze-like mansion, embracing "rooms without walls and walls without roofs". Paradoxically, it appears both planned and spontaneous, smart and sophisticated while overlaid with a wonderful tropical languor.

www.geoffreybawa.com



WHAT IT MEANS TO US

Tropical modernism wasn't Bawa's only legacy. Years ahead of his time, he espoused sustainable architecture, using techniques we now take for granted, such as cross-ventilation, wide eaves, internal courtyards and water features to regulate temperature and humidity.



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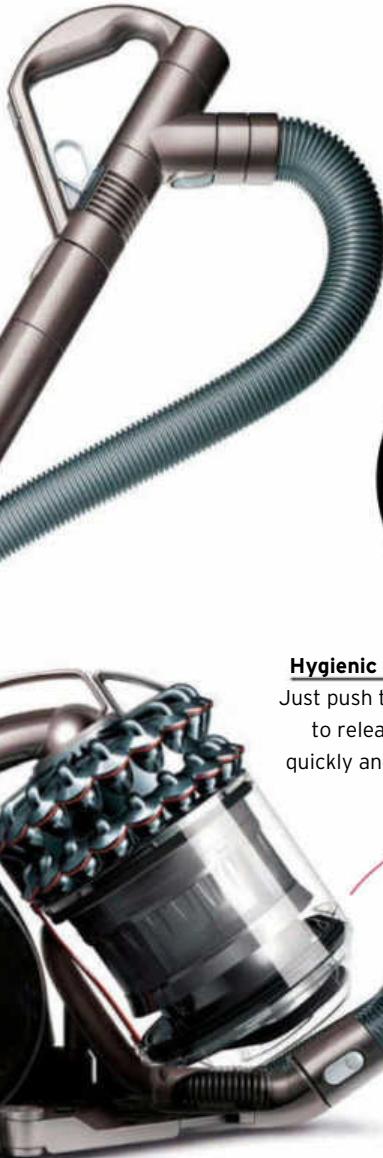
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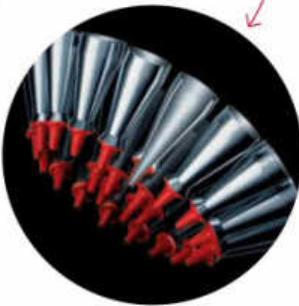
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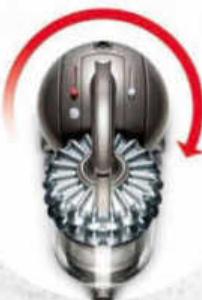
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These beautiful new homes will change your views on family-friendly design

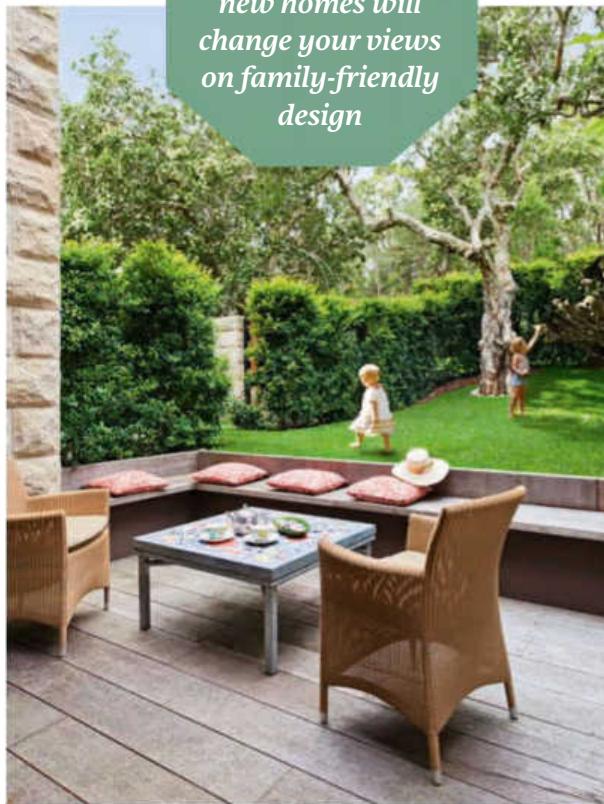
146 VIC

Calling for masculine architecture, the owners of this family home then lavished the interior with a palette of natural materials.



154 WA

Created for a blended family that's always on the move, this contemporary Perth home has space and texture in spades.



162 NSW

With views to thrill, a steep site and three generations to consider, this new build in Sydney called for out-of-the-box solutions.



HOUSES

PERFECT FIT

MAIN LIVING / Filled with books, photos and trinkets rich in personal meaning, this custom bookcase makes a large space feel more intimate. Sofas, Weylandts. Coffee tables and stool, Blu Peter. Throw, Empire Highgate. Fireplace, Jetmaster. Sisal rug, Jenny Jones Rugs. Artwork by Abbey McCulloch. **FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 236.**





Flying HIGH

These frequent flyers get great mileage from a multi-level Perth sanctuary with enviable indoor-outdoor flow.

STORY & STYLING ANNA FLANDERS / PHOTOGRAPHY ANGELITA BONETTI



Visitors could be forgiven for experiencing a pang of envy when they walk into this house in a riverside suburb of Perth. Behind a high white wall lies a striking example of contemporary open-plan family living, a welcoming home with sweeping indoor-outdoor connections over multiple split levels.

The house was still a shell when Tim and Nicky Lester first saw it in 2013, yet they could appreciate its potential. They were attracted by its location, privacy, and the flow of spaces, which would accommodate their work needs and shared-parenting arrangements for their blended family. With children and work across two cities, the couple regularly travels between Perth and Sydney. On the east coast they live in a waterside apartment; in Perth they wanted a traditional house with space for all.

“The layout was important because between us we have five children. Elina [14], Andrew [16] and Emily [19] live with us in Perth, and Tom [eight] and Molly [six] live with us in Sydney,” says Nicky. “We love bringing the entire family together on school holidays. We needed a house where we could entertain and enjoy family time together as well as have our own spaces.”

The developer happened to be a friend and a deal was struck, with the new owners free to direct the fit-out. “We were able to spec it out in a way that was good for us,” says Tim. They chose a clean white palette with chic black feature walls and a dark stain for the jarrah floors.

Working long hours and living between two cities, the couple wanted this home to feel like a sanctuary: “warm but contemporary, simple yet not stark”, says Tim. To that end, they called in interior designer ▶

‘The design is very contemporary and reflects the way we like to entertain and spend time with family.’

Nicky Lester

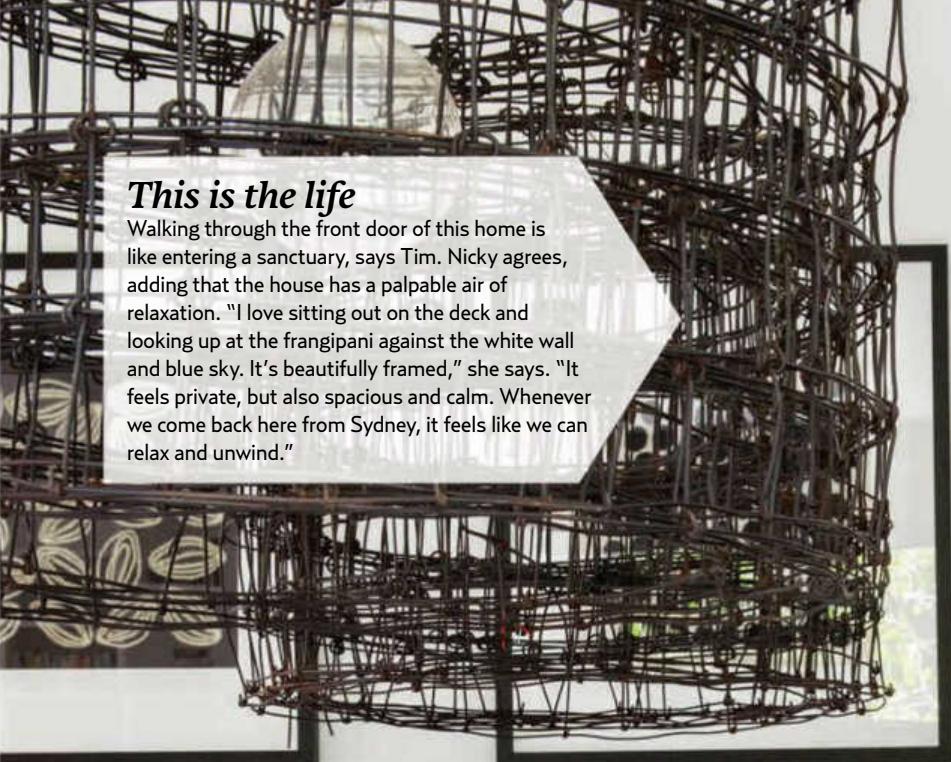
KITCHEN/ DINING / above and opposite

“The house is like a Tardis,” says Tim. “It’s roomy but feels homely.” Table, Blu Peter. Plates and bowls, Living Edge. Candleholder, The Design Farm. Napkins, Pure Linen. Laguiole cutlery, Temple & Webster. Chairs, Gogo. Joinery by Commerce Cabinets. Replica Tolix stools, Fantastic Furniture. Framed artworks, Designer Boys Collections.

Designer buys: Industrial Wire pendant lights, \$1100/each, Blu Peter. **FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 236.**

This is the life

Walking through the front door of this home is like entering a sanctuary, says Tim. Nicky agrees, adding that the house has a palpable air of relaxation. "I love sitting out on the deck and looking up at the frangipani against the white wall and blue sky. It's beautifully framed," she says. "It feels private, but also spacious and calm. Whenever we come back here from Sydney, it feels like we can relax and unwind."



'The outside is invited in, and that makes the house feel more spacious.' Tim Lester

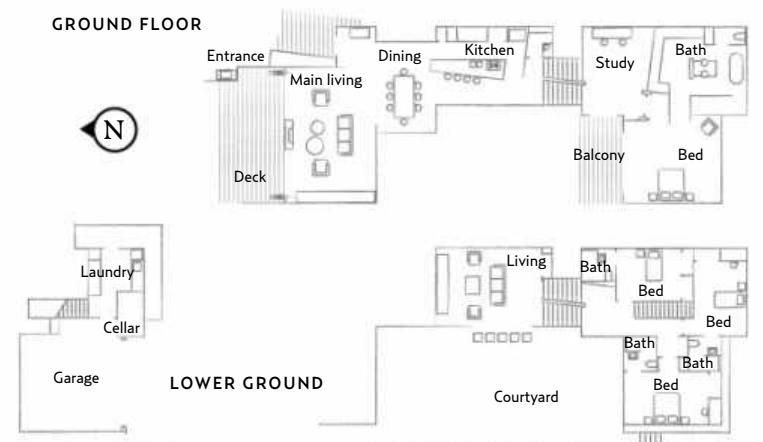
Dulux
Vivid White
interior
throughout

Dulux
Black Caviar
feature walls

Add a dash of

Taubmans
Grey on Grey





MAIN BEDROOM / An interesting textural effect has been achieved with a concrete-effect plaster wall and soft Belgian bedlinen. Bedlinen and throws, Pure Linen. Outdoor furniture, Eco Outdoor.

MAIN ENSUITE / Clean-lined efficiency is the theme here. Basin, Caroma. Tapware, Tuck Plumbing Fixtures. Floor tiles, House of Ceramics. Woven side table, Blu Peter.

MAIN LIVING / An antique Korean console delivers warmth in this monochrome space. Perforated screen panels (left) are fitted with LED lighting by Red Brown Design.

Designer buys: Outdeco Lantern screen panels, \$110/each, Eco Outdoor. **FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 236.** ►

H&G HOUSES



◀ Adri-Ann Brown of Red Brown Design. "We liked the use of different textures and combination of colours that she brings to her designs," says Nicky. Adri-Ann built up an organic yet contemporary style that gives this house the chic but homely feel they wanted.

The family eats, relaxes and entertains on the ground level, where kitchen, dining and living spaces flow out to a sunny entertaining deck and grassy courtyard. From this floor, one staircase leads down to the children's bedrooms and living area, off an internal courtyard, and another down to the laundry, cellar and garage. Tim and Nicky's zone is a comfortable retreat set a short flight up from the main living area, containing a study and a serene bedroom with walk-in wardrobe and ensuite.

"The house works really well when the children have friends over," says Nicky. "They can have all the space downstairs and we have the space upstairs to relax, watch movies and do our own thing. Or we can be entertaining in different ways at the same time."

Both she and Tim nominate the main living area as their favourite spot in the home. "We can be in the kitchen and have the kids watching TV or kicking a soccer ball against the front wall," says Nicky. "Opening the bifolding doors creates a multitude of spaces that are connected and bring everyone together."

H&G

Red Brown Design, North Fremantle, WA; (08) 9433 1782
or www.redbrown.com.au.

FRONT COURTYARD / above and right "Spring is the best time to enjoy this space," says Nicky, pictured above with Emily (left) and Elina. "We open up the doors and make the most of it throughout the day." Sofa, Blu Peter. Coffee table, dining table and chairs, Eco Outdoor. Tablecloth, Pure Linen. Barbecue, Beefeater Barbecues. **FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 236.**



Perfect fit

"This home was a new build, signifying a fresh start and the merging of two families," says interior designer Adri-Ann Brown. Applying her signature design aesthetic, which she describes as "raw and refined", Adri-Ann has combined striking pieces in different genres and styles with meaningful objects from the clients' pasts. The result is a warm, innovative and highly personal living environment.

FEATURE PLANTS

FRONT COURTYARD

Bird of paradise

(*Strelitzia*)

Frangipani

(*Plumeria*)

DECK

Yucca

Potted succulents





THE LONG VIEW

Water vistas and sophisticated, open-plan interiors distinguish this beautifully appointed home, set high above Sydney's Northern Beaches.

STORY DEBORAH GRANT / PRODUCED BY NERIDA PIGGIN / STYLING ASHLEY PRATT

This is the life

For a home built over four levels with majestic coastal views on tap, this house offers a series of surprisingly warm and intimate spaces inside. "It feels cosy even on wet and windy days," says architect and interior designer Susan Rothwell. "It has a wonderful holiday vibe," says the owner, who particularly loves the far-reaching vista from the top-level bedroom suite. "It gives everyone a peaceful, calm feeling."



POOL "My favourite part of the house is by the pool, looking at the view," says the owner. The suspended, saltwater infinity pool is gas-heated for year-round swimming.

FRONT GATE Lola, one of the owners' grandchildren, at the sandstone entry, which is framed by an arching red-flowering bougainvillea.

FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 236.

'We wanted the spectacular view to come in as soon as you walked into the room, before you saw anything else.' Susan Rothwell, architect



Photograph by Felix Forest.



When the owners of this home discovered this large block of land on Sydney's Northern Beaches, they knew they had found a special place. Although its location on top of a hill presented some challenges, that didn't deter the couple. The steep drop of the site, covered in bush and tropical growth, simply meant that the house would have to be arranged over a number of view-framing levels.

Architect Susan Rothwell was a perfect fit for the project, having already designed several outstanding homes in the area. "Years ago, I designed the house next to this site," she says. "I've always been enchanted by the Barrenjoey Peninsula." This time, she departed from conventional beachside architecture with a design that affords 180-degree water views and abundant light while minimising any associated glare.

Along with an impressive open-plan living area, the brief included enough bedrooms to accommodate the couple and three generations of their family, who often spend holidays here. Accordingly, the two lower levels are given over to guestrooms and casual living spaces. The entrance level has its own living and dining spaces, while the top storey is the owners' retreat. A lift gives easy access to all four levels.

Susan and her son William, also an architect, began work on the home at the end of 2006 and completed the project in 2011. As anticipated, the build involved much excavation. "The result is that the house nestles into the hill, modest from the side but opening up to the north and views to the rear," says William.

The construction materials were initially brick, concrete and sandstone from the site. However, when testing revealed the local stone was too soft to use, the owners opted for classic Sydney sandstone instead.

Practical considerations also informed many of the material choices inside, including the distinctively weathered panels of corrugated iron that line the ceilings of the ground-floor living areas. "As well as being decorative, I knew corrugations could dissipate the reflected glare that would bounce off a flat ceiling," says Susan. A friend pointed her to an old dairy farm on the NSW Central Coast with a rusted iron roof. Susan offered to pay for a new Colorbond roof in return for the old one. ▶

LIVING / This expansive space looks out over Pittwater and across Barrenjoey Headland. On the floor are Saturnia Noce tumbled travertine tiles from STS Stone, which also feature in the bathroom vanities and the lining of the pool. The side tables are traditional Thai bronze rain drums, which make a pleasing musical sound when struck by raindrops. Custom pendant light designed by architect Susan Rothwell.

Smart buy: For similar rain drum, try the Frog Rain-Drum side table, from \$264, Pottery Barn. **FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 236.**



LIVING/OUTDOOR LIVING / Big, bold sofas and a covered outdoor entertaining space are set up to embrace the magical coastal views. The owner bought the rug on a trip to Iran, while the tall glass lanterns were a gift. Japanese coffee table, The Country Trader. Outdoor seating, BBQ Factory.

ENTRANCE AREA / Travertine steps lead down to the main living/dining area, which offers one of many window seats in the house. Antique ladderback chair. Dining table, Coco Republic. Antique leather armchair purchased in the UK.

Artworks by Sophie Cape (left) and Susan Rothwell (still life).

SNUG / Ideal for winter days, this entrance-level casual living area with stone fireplace is furnished with a blend of French and Italian antiques, including an heirloom desk. Here, the wide-banded render used on the walls throughout is clearly visible. Painting by Susan Rothwell. Reclining figure sculpture on mantelpiece by Gulcin Seven.

Smart buy: SuperTuft Escape Velour wool rug in Abby, \$330/m, Mr Carpet. **FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 236.** ▶



THE PALETTE

Porter's Paints
Herd
main bedroom

Porter's Paints
Turkish Coffee
lower exterior

Add a dash of

**Resene
Beethoven**

'The house gives everyone a peaceful, calm feeling. It has a wonderful holiday vibe.' Owner





◀ The farmer was delighted. Shortly after, some of the 100-year-old iron sheets were affixed to the underside of the concrete slab; others were fashioned into a front gate and front door.

As light is plentiful, glare-resistant travertine spans the floors and a flat, non-reflective mineral paint covers all internal walls aside from the bedrooms. Light fittings and door hardware are in bronze or oxidised copper finishes. The rest of the palette is a melange of midtones, featuring tawny neutrals and burnt sienna hues that complement the internal sandstone walls and pillars, with splashes of red.

Relaxed yet sophisticated, the main living area inspired the warm interiors throughout. There's a formal dining zone at one end, lounge seating in the middle and at the other end, beyond frameless bifold doors, an idyllic outdoor entertaining area. The decor displays both Eastern and Western influences, including a life-sized Chinese statue in the entrance hall and European antiques in most rooms.

Renowned gardener Paul Bangay worked with Susan on the landscaping, which has a tropical, beachy feel. Bougainvillea and frangipani bloom at the gate and near the kitchen, while gardenia and jasmine perfume the garden in warmer months.

Not surprisingly, the owner is thrilled with the result. "I love the house and living here," she says. "Susan and William have created something truly beautiful."

H&G

Susan Rothwell Architects, Greenwich, NSW; (02) 9439 2380.

Paul Bangay Garden Design, Cremorne, Victoria; (03) 9427 9545 or www.paulbangay.com.au.

'The bedroom and ensuite are my sanctuary. From there I can see for miles.' Owner

MAIN BEDROOM / This top-floor space is all about the view. Coordinating with the sands of Barrenjoey Headland, a simple bedhead is upholstered in a Manuel Canovas striped fabric from Domus Textiles. Throw, Bemboka. Swing-arm wall lights, Urban Lighting. The wool rug was purchased in Iran.

Smart buy: State of Waratah botanical print cushion cover, \$75, Utopia Goods.

MAIN ENSUITE / A picture window next to the bathtub delivers the full range of light as it changes throughout the course of the day. Kaldewei Duo freestanding bath, The Bath House. For similar Turkish towel, try Knotty.

FRONT DECK / Sisters Florence and Lola pad barefoot across the soft 'Sir Walter' buffalo grass, beneath a paperbark tree. Most of the plantings were chosen to ensure privacy. Mosaic inlay (on table) by Jane de la Vega. Armchairs, Lloyd Loom & Classics. **FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 236.**

Perfect fit

The design of this home fosters a connection with the outdoors and facilitates relationships within. With ample bedrooms to accommodate multiple generations, plus a choice of social areas, it's ideal for hosting family and friends. "I love entertaining here," says the owner. "It's so easy and practical." Long-term functionality has also been considered: a lift ensures that all four levels will be accessible well into the future for the semi-retired owners.

FEATURE PLANTS

FRONT GATE

Bougainvillea
Frangipani
(*Plumeria*)

FRONT GARDEN

Gardenia augusta
'Florida'
Angel's trumpet
(*Brugmansia*)
Lilly pilly hedges
(*Syzygium*)





DARK & *handsome*

Prioritising the practical ensured this Melbourne owner created a house that is both stylish urban pad and family-friendly home.

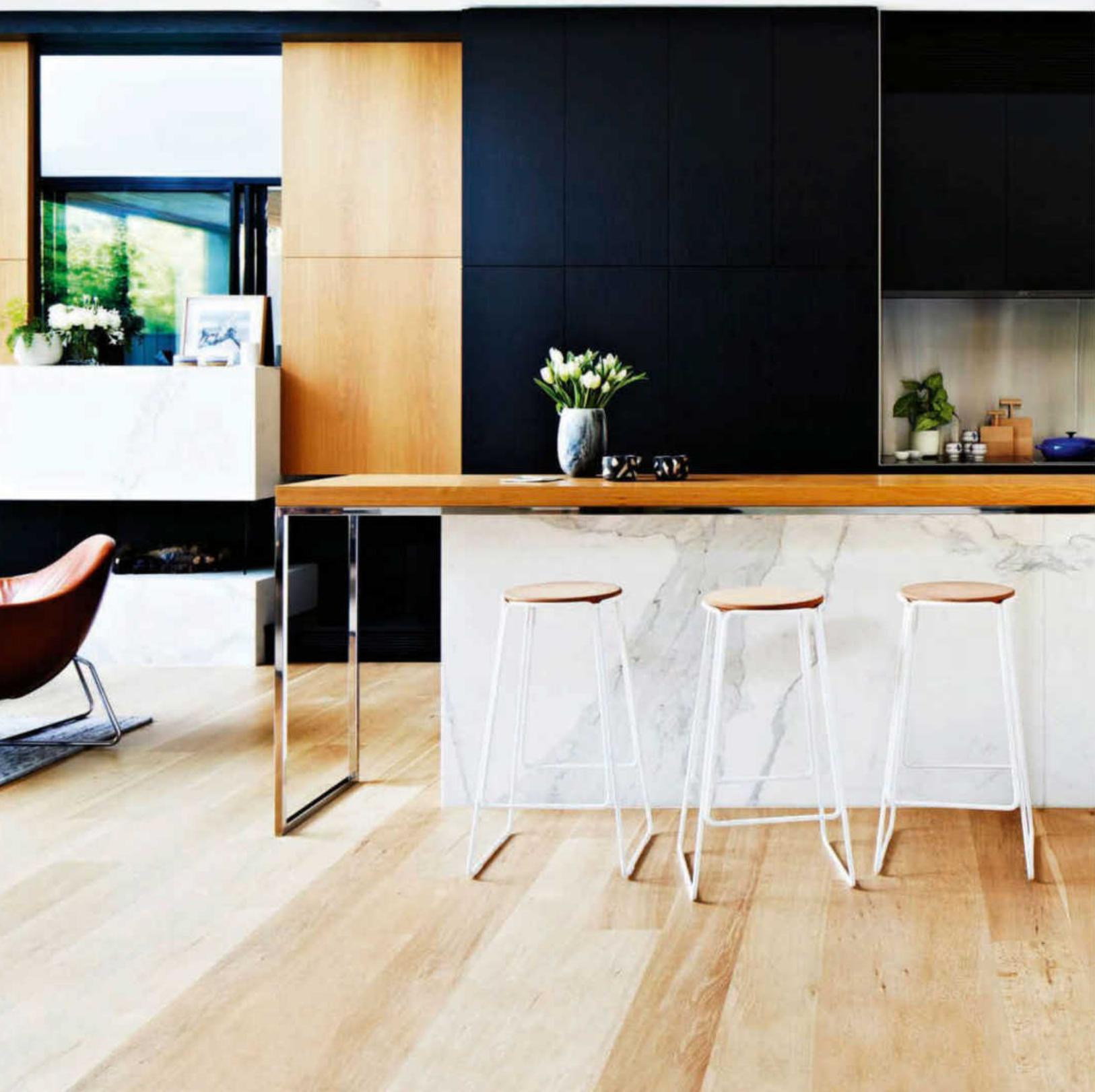
PRODUCED BY STEPHEN CRAFTI / STYLING SIMONE HAAG / PHOTOGRAPHY ARMELLE HABIB



DINING / American-oak battens line the ceiling of the dining room and extend into the outdoor dining area. Dining table, Zuster. Mugs, Mr Kitly. Hans Wegner Wishbone chairs, Cult. Hide, Great Dane. Travertine flooring. Flowers, Katie Marx Flowers (throughout). **Designer buy:** Flos Aim suspension lights, \$3282 (as shown), Euroluce. **FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 236.**

This is the life

"We wanted the lowest-maintenance garden possible," says owner-builder Bear Agushi. "So we opted for synthetic grass. We never have to mow, the kids can roll around on it all year, it's never muddy, and there are never any dead patches," he says. "Our landscape designer, Jack Merlo, wasn't a fan and we were teased by some of our friends, but we absolutely love it. Sometimes practicality has to take priority."





Right from the start, Melbourne builder Bear Agushi was clear about what he wanted: a spacious, modern home for himself, his wife and their two young children. A beautifully appointed family home that didn't feel 'stitched up'. Bear called on architect David Watson to create the perfect floor plan and John Bornas, director of Workroom Design, to give style and substance to his vision.

"The block is narrow-ish, only 10m wide, so we wanted a layout that was as open as possible to prevent it feeling long and skinny like traditional inner-city townhouses," says Bear. "For the interior, we wanted a strong masculine aesthetic, but softened slightly with natural materials. Both designers hit the brief perfectly."

This two-storey house in Melbourne's inner east appears monolithic from the street. Clad in black zinc at ground level, the cement-rendered first floor seems to float above. But once inside, an oak-lined hallway leads past a study, media room and an internal courtyard to the open-plan kitchen/dining/living area that is totally geared for family living.

In the living area, the ceiling height soars to 7m and the rear wall is made largely of glass to draw light into the core of the home. Stacking glass doors separate the sitting zone from the backyard and the adjacent alfresco dining area, a neat trick that visually extends the space. "The living room is my favourite room in the house," says Bear. "It faces east, but thanks to the double-height glass, it is always bright and feels so much bigger than it actually is. And having glass doors on two sides brings the garden right inside." Off-form concrete is used for key ►

'The finishes are quite organic so any marks, dings or chips can be easily cleaned or disguised.'

Bear Agushi

LIVING / The living zone has stacking glass doors on two sides to maintain a connection to the outdoors while keeping the house cosy. Sofa and ottoman custom-designed by Workroom Design. B&B Italia Hive side table and Moooi Non Random pendant lights, Space. Bali leather armchair, Poliform. Stacking doors, Alcon Windows.

Smart buy: Salsa wool rug, from \$1900, Halcyon Lake.

KITCHEN / The textural materials palette includes Calacatta marble, stainless steel and American oak, in a natural finish for the benchtop and blackened for the joinery. Ox Design Smed stools, Great Dane.

FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 236.



'Nothing is precious. The Agushis simply wanted a home that worked for them.' John Bornas

MEDIA / "The internal courtyard fills the house with light and greenery," says Bear. Curtains made from Aero Linen in Pebble, Westbury Textiles. Rubn Lighting Hunter floor lamp, Fred International. Omelette-ed mirror, Mobilia. Carpet, Solomons Flooring.

Designer buy: B&B Italia Husk armchair, from \$4170, Space.

STUDY / The brightly coloured woven basket and bottles by Emma Davies add an element of fun. Potted maidenhair ferns, Glasshaus. Font clock, Living Edge. Porro Gentle chair, Space. Jielde lamp, Euroluce.

MAIN BEDROOM / "The loop pile and oatmeal colour of the carpet is very forgiving," says Bear. Maxalto Febo chaise and Lithos side table, Space. Curtains made from Aero Linen in Pebble, Westbury Textiles. Carpet, Solomons Flooring.

FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 236.

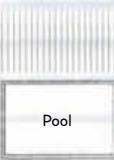
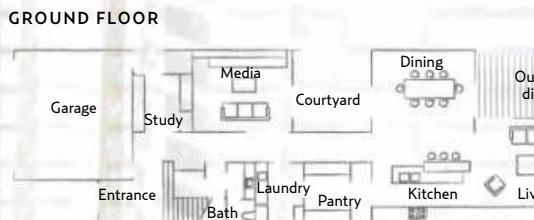
THE PALETTE

Dulux
White On White
main walls

Dulux Black
kitchen cabinetry

American oak

THE LAYOUT





◀ walls, linking back to the exterior render, with dark metal accents and black kitchen joinery referencing the exterior zinc cladding.

The first floor contains the home's four bedrooms (two with ensuites), a family bathroom and a second living room, which is earmarked as a future teen retreat. "John came up with the idea for the second living room," says Bear. "We thought it would be great for the kids to have somewhere to escape to as they get older."

This is a home geared towards easy living. The organic finishes make it a breeze to maintain, and there's plenty of storage, including a generous butler's pantry, to keep clutter in check. The garden, too, was carefully planned with minimal maintenance in mind. "It is heavily planted and quite formal in design, but nearly all the trees are evergreen," says Bear. "And we have underplanted the trees with star jasmine or liriope, which hides most of the weeds and leaf litter."

Every detail in this luxury home has been meticulously conceived by Bear and his design team. The floor plan flows beautifully from one space to another, and using the same mix of materials from top to bottom, indoors and out, enhances the feeling of harmony.

"There are really no formal or informal areas in the house," says John. "Nothing is precious. The Agushis simply wanted a home that worked for them."

H&G

David Watson Architect, Abbotsford, Victoria; (03) 8415 1565 or www.dwarch.com.au. Workroom Design, Richmond, Victoria; (03) 9417 0044 or www.workroom.com.au. Agushi, South Yarra, Victoria; (03) 9826 5900 or www.agushi.com.au.

FEATURE PLANTS

BACKYARD

Gleditsia triacanthos
var. *inermis*
'Shademaster'
Liriope

INTERNAL COURTYARD
Ornamental pear

MAIN ENSUITE / "The stone-composite bath is handmade and was a nightmare to get in," says Bear. "But the profile is simply beautiful." Serge Mouille Applique 1 Bras Pivotant Courbe wall light, Cult. Calacatta marble vanity. Travertine flooring.

Designer buy: Folding Brass Stool 1.0, \$289, Douglas and Bec.

GARDEN / Travertine around the pool ties in with that used elsewhere. Junya Ishigami Family Chairs, Space. **FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 236.**

Perfect fit

To achieve the masculine, minimalist aesthetic the Agushis were after, John designed joinery that blends into its surroundings. "My wife and I can't stand it when living spaces make a feature of the television," says Bear. Panels of American oak slide to reveal or conceal the TV and storage for other bits and bobs. The cabinetry is arranged around the fireplace, which is made from Calacatta marble to match the island bench in the kitchen.



Homewares Costa Lounge and Chair
Pictured with Riviera Stripe Cement
Cushion By Rapee (Available in Store Only).
All other items are stylists own.

Costas 4-Piece
Lounge Setting
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Homewares Bali Ball and San Remo Day Bed Pictured with Riviera Aqua Cushion by Rapee (Available in Store Only). All other items are stylists own.

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COOL CARIBBEAN



● Maui 7-Piece Dining Setting
\$2,499

Furniture Maui 2-Seater Lounge, \$1099; Coffee Table, \$499.
Homewares Maui 2-Seater Lounge Pictured with GLG Outdoor
Cushion Lime, \$19.95 each. Riviera Lily Green Cushion by Rapee
(Available in Store Only). All other items are stylists own.



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MAGIC MEDITERRANEAN



Homewares Newport Modular Pictured with GLG Outdoor Cushion Aqua, \$19.95 each. Riviera Stripe Oblong Cushion Aqua by Rapee (Available in Store Only). All other items are stylists own.

MAGIC MEDITERRANEAN

Warm breezes and temperate days make for low-key afternoons filled with good food and good wine, with friends coming together to share a simple meal and lively conversation.

Newport Modular Lounge Setting
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The purple haze of jacaranda, salvia and *Pennisetum 'Rubrum'* is interspersed with masses of ornamental grasses and rolling clumps of star jasmine.

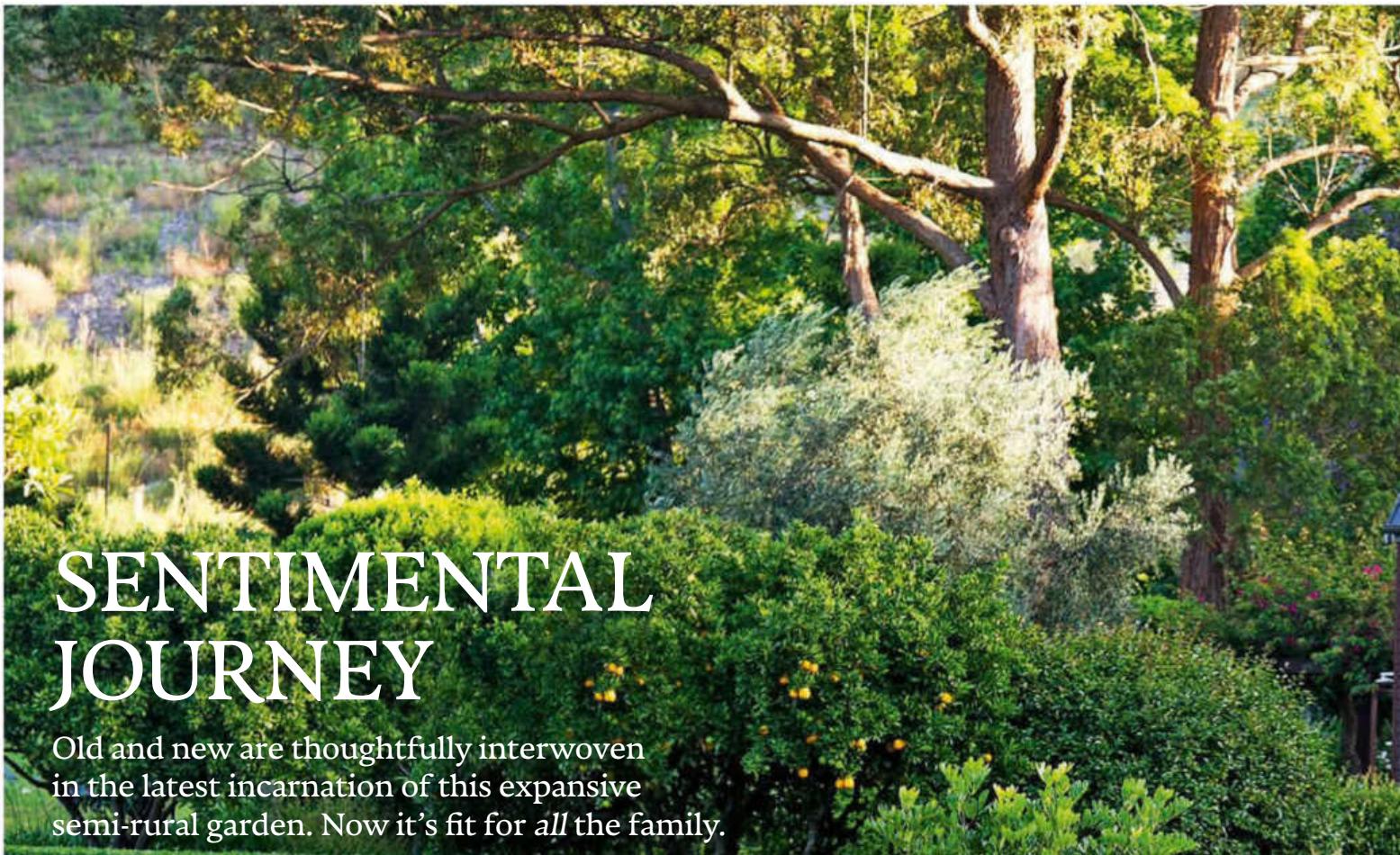
A formal garden reborn as a family-friendly wonderland



Photograph by Brigid Arnott.

GARDENS

A CENTRAL COAST WONDER / TOMATO LOVE / GARDEN OF THE YEAR COMPETITION



SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY

Old and new are thoughtfully interwoven in the latest incarnation of this expansive semi-rural garden. Now it's fit for *all* the family.

STORY HELEN YOUNG / PHOTOGRAPHY BRIGID ARNOTT

Sinuous sweeps of lawn offset generous garden beds planted with swathes of purple salvia, star jasmine, dainty pink *Gaura* and chunky tufts of ornamental grasses. Citrus and olive trees provide edible treats for the extended family, while grevilleas and sheltering eucalypts feed the birds. Soon, the ornamental grasses will fill out to form a shimmering mass.





Having lived at their 2ha property in Wamberal on the NSW Central Coast for 35 years, Sue and Brian Mann preferred to rebuild rather than move when it came time to upgrade their home. “Our brief was simple,” says Sue. “We wanted a timeless house that would suit our extended family. Our children and grandkids live a stone’s throw away and are here every weekend.”

The resort-style feel of their new house deserved a garden to complement it so Sue turned to noted landscape designer Michael Cooke, an expert in acreage properties. Most rooms in the new house look out to the garden, so the interaction between inside and out was critical. “The house has a good feel about it, and the lovely fall of the land promised lots of possibilities,” says Michael.

The challenge lay in blending elements of the old garden with the new. For Sue,

retaining parts that held sentimental meaning for the family, such as the ‘wedding garden’ where their son had been married, was non-negotiable. “It definitely had to stay,” she says. “Our daughter had her reception in the garden too, so I wanted to look out and see familiar plants.”

Sue was keen to keep many of the garden’s oldest inhabitants, including some 30-year-old jacarandas. Several mature camellias were also dug up and stored at the back of the property while building was underway before being craned back into new positions.

The latest incarnation of the Manns’ garden has a park-like ambience, with generous sweeps of lawn and swathes of mass plantings in keeping with the scale of the house. Ornamental grasses feature strongly. “They give that relaxed look and they’re low maintenance,” says ▶

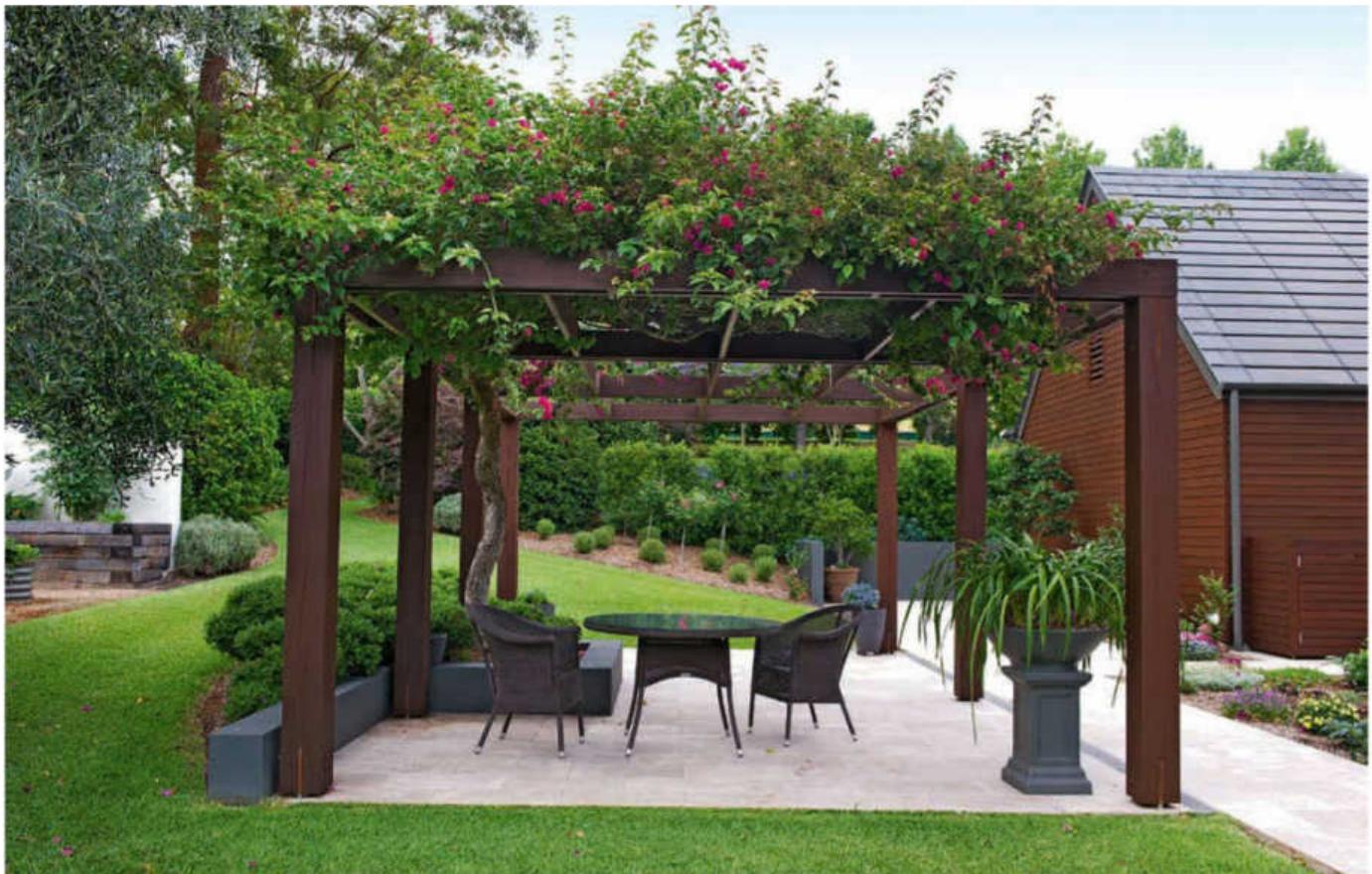
‘My grandsons have their shovels and they help dig and weed.’

Sue Mann

ABOVE / Soft-pink ‘Jean Ducher’ roses are backed by *Salvia leucantha ‘Santa Barbara’*. A bank of star jasmine adds perfume while the large clipped balls of *Loropetalum ‘China Pink’* with their burgundy foliage provide colour and sculptural mass in the park-like grounds.

OPPOSITE / The lawns of ‘Sapphire’ soft-leaf buffalo grass offer inviting routes for little feet to run and explore. Mauve agapanthus and jacaranda share colour and timing.





◀ Michael. Sue's beloved roses remain, now augmented by massed salvias, dainty whirling butterflies (*Gaura*) and fragrant star jasmine. Adding sculptural form are clipped balls of Japanese box and *Rhaphiolepis* 'Oriental Pearl'.

A new timber pergola clothed in a vibrant crimson bougainvillea lies to the east of the home. Not only did the 30-year-old vine get a new support, Sue's desire to hold on to it influenced the design of that part of the house. Nearby, a meandering crushed-granite path winds through a new native garden.

Wrapping around the property is a curtain of mature eucalypts, home to a rich array of birds and wildlife. Several 6m-high Chinese tallow trees, transplanted from the original garden, also feature. Their new companions include snow pears (*Pyrus nivalis*), October Glory maples (*Acer* 'October Glory') and white crepe myrtles (*Lagerstroemia* 'Natchez').

This is very much a garden for the couple's five grandchildren, all of whom are under eight. "My grandsons have their shovels and they help dig and weed," says Sue. A former pool shed was turned into a cubbyhouse purely for their enjoyment.

Landscape contractor Adam Eurell of Nature's Vision Landscapes worked with Sue to bring the garden from plan to fruition. "We re-used a lot of plants, but in different ways," he says. "For instance, sculptural mounds of *Buxus* under the crepe myrtles came from a hedge that ran along the front of the old house."

"I love every bit of this property," says Sue. "I run a business and this garden is my respite. It is the most therapeutic thing anyone can do."

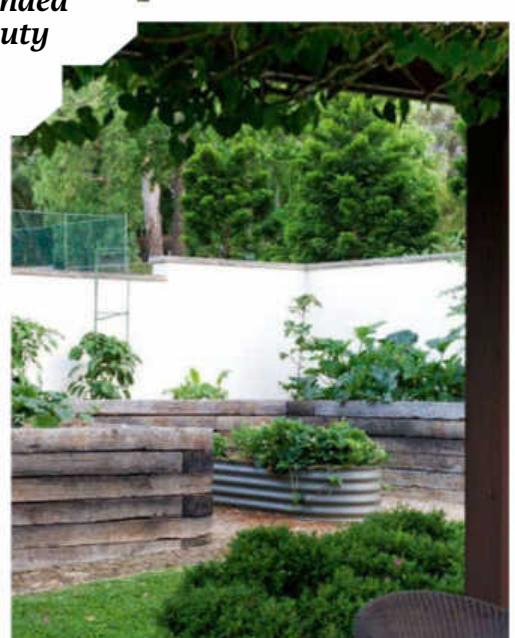
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Michael Cooke Garden Design, Central Mangrove, NSW; (02) 4373 1212 or www.michaelcooke.com.au. **Nature's Vision Landscapes, Terrigal, NSW; (02) 4382 4111 or www.naturesvision.com.au.**

ABOVE / The mature bougainvillea was preserved and provided with a new timber pergola to grow over. Travertine pavers from Homestone brings a luxe touch to this alfresco dining area. **OPPOSITE / clockwise from top left** A cobblestone path leads to the barn. Pretty and sturdy agapanthus. *Miscanthus* 'Haiwatha' softens the edge of the sandstone steps. The pool is edged with travertine and softened with a mass of *Panicum* 'Heavy Metal'. The kitchen garden. White crepe myrtle against the sandstone kitchen wall underplanted with *Buxus*. *Magnolia* *grandiflora* 'Exmouth'. *Salvia* *leucantha* 'Santa Barbara'.



A blended beauty



Michael's tips for merging old and new

- ⊕ Establish what is worth keeping from the old garden.
- ⊕ Be objective. Don't be afraid to remove anything that isn't pulling its weight.
- ⊕ Nostalgia has its place, but don't be ruled by it. A plant given to you by a friend may be better kept out of sight if you're honest, or it might just be the defining element that makes a garden special.

home & living TREND REPORT

Inspired by the things that surround you, create a home that brings together the pieces you love.

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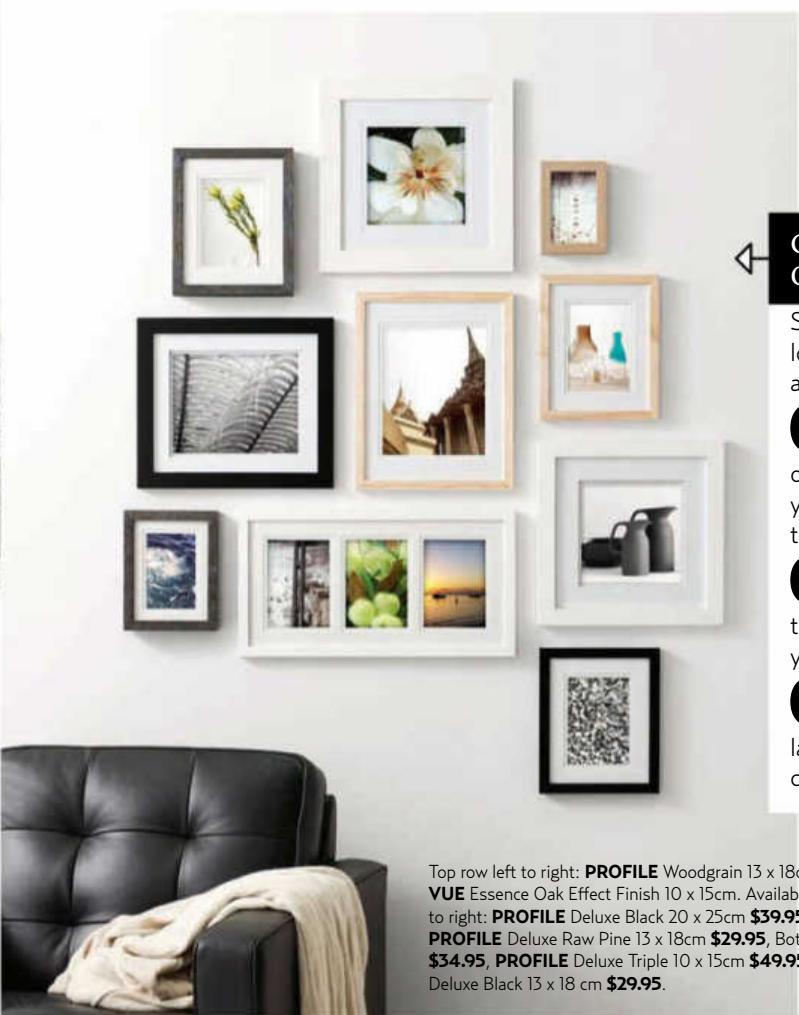
CREATE YOUR OWN GALLERY

Showcase what you truly love and make your walls a statement of you.

01 It helps to plan first by cutting out pieces of paper the same sizes as your frames and laying them on the floor.

02 Once you're happy with the order, mark the wall carefully where your hooks should go.

03 For the best result, start by hanging the largest central piece, then continue hanging outwards.



Top row left to right: **PROFILE** Woodgrain 13 x 18cm **\$39.95**, **CAPTURE** Cayman 20 x 20cm **\$44.95**, **VUE** Essence Oak Effect Finish 10 x 15cm. Available from late September 2015. **\$12.95**. Middle row left to right: **PROFILE** Deluxe Black 20 x 25cm **\$39.95**, **PROFILE** Deluxe Raw Pine 20 x 25cm **\$39.95**, **PROFILE** Deluxe Raw Pine 13 x 18cm **\$29.95**, **PROFILE** Deluxe Triple 10 x 15cm **\$49.95**, **CAPTURE** Venture 15 x 15cm **\$25.95**, **PROFILE** Deluxe Black 13 x 18 cm **\$29.95**.

TOMATO LOVE



Tomatoes are one of the most popular inclusions in edible gardens. For a successful crop this summer heed this advice, writes **Helen Young**.

Just the words 'home-grown tomatoes' get most of us excited. That's because freshness, flavour and knowing how our vegetables are grown are important to us. But tomatoes aren't the easiest of vegetables to grow. You need a bit of know-how to avoid problems.

Varieties

There are about 75,000 different tomato varieties in seed banks around the world. Some are heirloom varieties, which are open-pollinated, meaning that seeds develop into the same plants as the parent. Many commercial varieties are F1 Hybrids that are developed by controlled breeding. You can't save and grow the seeds of these types as they won't necessarily be the same as the parents.

Best for beginners

The easiest and fastest tomatoes to grow are cherry or grape tomatoes. They're ideal for beginners because their thicker skins make them resistant to fruit fly, the scourge of growers in fruit fly-prone areas. Cherry tomatoes are popular with children who can harvest some almost every day once these prolific plants begin bearing.

For home cooks

There are tomatoes for cooking into sauces, such as Roma and Amish Paste; large salad tomatoes such as Grosse Lisse and Mortgage Lifter; and weird and wonderful shapes such as Green Sausage and Banana Legs. And the best tomatoes are not always red. At two recent public taste tests conducted by Diggers Club, the top 10 choices included pink, yellow, orange and green varieties.

Timing

Spring is the best time to plant tomatoes to ensure they fruit through summer into autumn. Seeds won't germinate



until the soil reaches 15°C, so get a head start and sow seeds in pots on a sunny windowsill from early spring; by the time the garden has warmed, the plants are ready for planting out. The advantage of seeds is their cost and the huge range of varieties available. But if sowing seeds isn't for you, buy seedlings in punnets or plants in pots. The optimum temperature for tomatoes to thrive is 25–27°C. In cold areas, choose fast-growing, smaller-fruited varieties. Start them in pots until it's warm enough to plant out. In tropical areas, tomatoes do best during winter, avoiding the summer wet season.

Pick a plot

Tomatoes like it warm and sunny. The better your soil, the better your crop, so work in plenty of organic matter and manure before you start planting. Good drainage is essential, as is crop rotation as it limits the build up of pests and diseases.

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TOMATO CARE

- ✚ Keep the soil evenly moist, without drying out.
- ✚ Surround plants with sugar cane mulch, lucerne or pea straw.
- ✚ Use potash around plants monthly to improve health, flowering and fruit set.
- ✚ Train tall plants on stakes or wire frames.
- ✚ Treat tomato grubs with organic Dipel.
- ✚ Prevent fruit fly with bags or covers of exclusion fabric (from greenharvest.com.au) or spray organic Eco-natralure or Nature's Way Fruit Fly Control.
- ✚ Control thrips, whitefly and mites with organic Nature's Way Vegie and Herb Spray.



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CALLING ALL GARDENERS!

H&G's Garden of the Year competition is back, so prime your plot and send us some pics!

Gardeners of Australia, here's your chance to show off your pride and joy. Enter the *H&G* Garden of the Year competition and you could be in the running to win fabulous prizes.

To enter, complete the entry form at right and send it to us, along with a few photographs of your gorgeous garden, by November 1.

Five category winners and an overall winner will be awarded.

Look out for next issue when all the exciting details will be revealed!

All gardens big and small

All gardens, regardless of size and location, are eligible. We're looking for gardens that have been created with love, dedication, thoughtful plant selection and good design.

The five categories are:

- **Small Garden** Plots up to 400m², including courtyards, rooftop gardens, large balconies and townhouse gardens.
- **Medium Garden** Gardens between 401m² and 1000m² (the old quarter-acre block).
- **Large Garden** Gardens larger than 1000m².
- **Pretty Garden** Flowering gardens that show a flair for layout and design, plant selection, individual expression and visual appeal.
- **Edible/Sustainable Garden** Thriving productive gardens and/or gardens designed according to sustainability principles that encompass water management, water-wise planting and a commitment to organic practices.

How to enter

You can send your submissions by mail or email.

Mail Complete the entry form at right and send, along with your photos, to *H&G* Garden of the Year Competition, GPO Box 4088, Sydney, NSW, 1028.

Email Complete and scan the entry form and send, along with high-resolution photos (about 1MB each) to H&Ggardencomp@bauer-media.com.au.

Full judging criteria for each category is available by contacting us via email at H&Ggardencomp@bauer-media.com.au. To see the criteria using the free *viewa* app, scan this page and follow the prompts.



Entry form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Daytime phone number: _____

After-hours number: _____

Email: _____

Category entered _____

What makes your garden special?

Tell us about your garden (in 150 words or fewer), including the challenges and triumphs, its size, age and location. (Attach a separate sheet of paper if this space is insufficient.)

Plant list

Please include a list of six to 10 of your key featured plants.

Plant design and maintenance

These questions are intended to help judges obtain a better picture of your garden and how it is maintained.

Who designed your garden?

Me Landscape designer It has evolved over time Other (if other, please explain)

Who maintains your garden?

Me Professional help

If you receive professional assistance with maintenance, how often does this occur?

Weekly Fortnightly Monthly

Send us your photos

Please send a minimum of six (6) photos of your garden (prints or via email). These must have been taken within the past 12 months. They can be in the form of prints posted in with your entry, or digital images sent via email (no larger than 1MB each).

We regret that we are unable to return submissions.

For full judging criteria and terms and conditions and a winner notification timeline, go to Bauer Media's website: www.bauer-media.com.au/terms/competition-terms. Entries close 11.59pm AEDST on November 1, 2015.

Open to Australian residents aged 18 years and over. One entry permitted per person. Please see Contents page for location of our Privacy Notice. If you do not want your information provided to any organisation not associated with this competition please indicate this clearly on your entry. Promoter is Bauer Media Pty Ltd (ABN 18053273546).

PLANT THE IDEA



When gardeners nurture plants they also reduce stress levels, increase their fitness and improve their wellbeing, writes **Paula Goodyer**.



INCREASE THE LENGTH AND INTENSITY OF YOUR GARDENING SESSIONS GRADUALLY.

The rewards for maintaining a garden go far beyond the opportunity to admire a burst of spring blossoms or cook vegies picked only minutes prior. Getting out into the garden can also offer you better mental health, reduced stress levels and a lower risk of stroke and dementia, along with better mobility into your senior years.

Working in the garden – regardless of whether it's your own backyard or a community garden – is the closest thing most city-dwellers get to a slower, greener and less sedentary way of life. But, intriguingly, there may be more to it than just getting off the sofa and closer to nature. Research released in 2007 by the UK's University of Bristol suggests that contact with a 'friendly' bacteria found in soil called *Mycobacterium vaccae* may also do us good by helping the brain to produce more serotonin, the brain chemical that improves feelings of wellbeing.

If you want to make the most of gardening's physical benefits, such as boosting your cardiovascular fitness and muscle strength, retiring the leaf blower is a good start. The more reasons we find to move around, the more we can

reduce our risk of diseases such as type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease and some cancers, says Katie Lyndon, an accredited exercise physiologist at Exercise & Sports Science Australia (ESSA). She says raking leaves manually, rather than using a leaf blower, is one way of doing this.

"Rather than hiring gardening services, you could also do your own garden maintenance," says Lyndon. "You could water the plants by hand instead of using a sprinkler – or even offer to mow the neighbour's garden or nature strip when doing your own. Don't do too much too soon though; be sure to increase the length and intensity of your gardening sessions gradually. Movements that involve lifting, pushing or squatting can all help to improve muscle strength, and this includes gardening activities such as weeding, mowing, hedging, raking, and lifting or moving pots and plants."

After every session in the garden, Lyndon says it's a good idea to do a few static stretches. They will help you to lengthen the muscles that have become tighter during gardening and keep your body flexible.

H&G

INJURY-FREE GARDENING

- ✚ Watch your lifting technique, especially with heavy items. Always bend your knees, avoid hunching your back and keep your core muscles engaged when lifting.
- ✚ Try to break up activities that involve reaching above your head for extended periods, such as clearing gutters or trimming high hedges. Also, avoid prolonged tensing of your neck as you reach upwards.

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UPDATE YOUR BATHROOM DECOR

It's easier than you think! Simple changes and small additions can make all the difference.

Our bathroom revamp starts with considered storage and a few key pieces. Keep clutter at bay and ensure there's a place for everything in the bathroom, whether it's a shelf for toiletries or hooks for towels. If space is at a premium, consider installing a simple wall-mounted cabinet or organise items in attractive storage containers on your vanity.

On the style front, a design element or two, such as feature lighting, hardware or mirrors, will give your space a great focal point. Accessorise with baskets, trolleys or boxes and use them to create a display of stored items. Any of these small changes will work wonders!

H&G SORBENT PROMOTION

SHOW YOUR BATHROOM SOME LOVE WITH EYE-CATCHING PIECES AND STYLISH ACCESSORIES

COSMETIC CHANGE

Spruce things up with bold paint colours or by applying contrasting grout to your tiles.

WELL REFLECTED

A statement piece, such as a designer mirror, can be used to great effect.

NO NEED TO HIDE

Make a display of your storage – try stacking graphic towels or toilet rolls in open storage baskets or boxes.

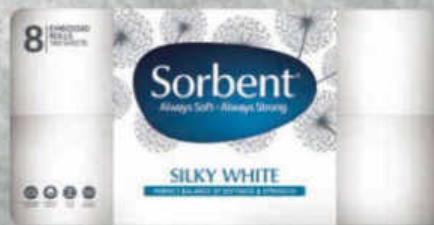


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A luxurious throw is just the thing for staying snug between seasons, and this gorgeous throw from Raine & Humble is our gift to you for subscribing to *Australian House & Garden* this month. Made from pure cotton with an appealing herringbone weave, the 130x170cm throw is available in your choice of Charcoal or Cloud Blue. To see the full Raine & Humble collection, go to www.raineandhumble.com.au.

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Styling by Kayla Gex. Photograph by Will Horner.

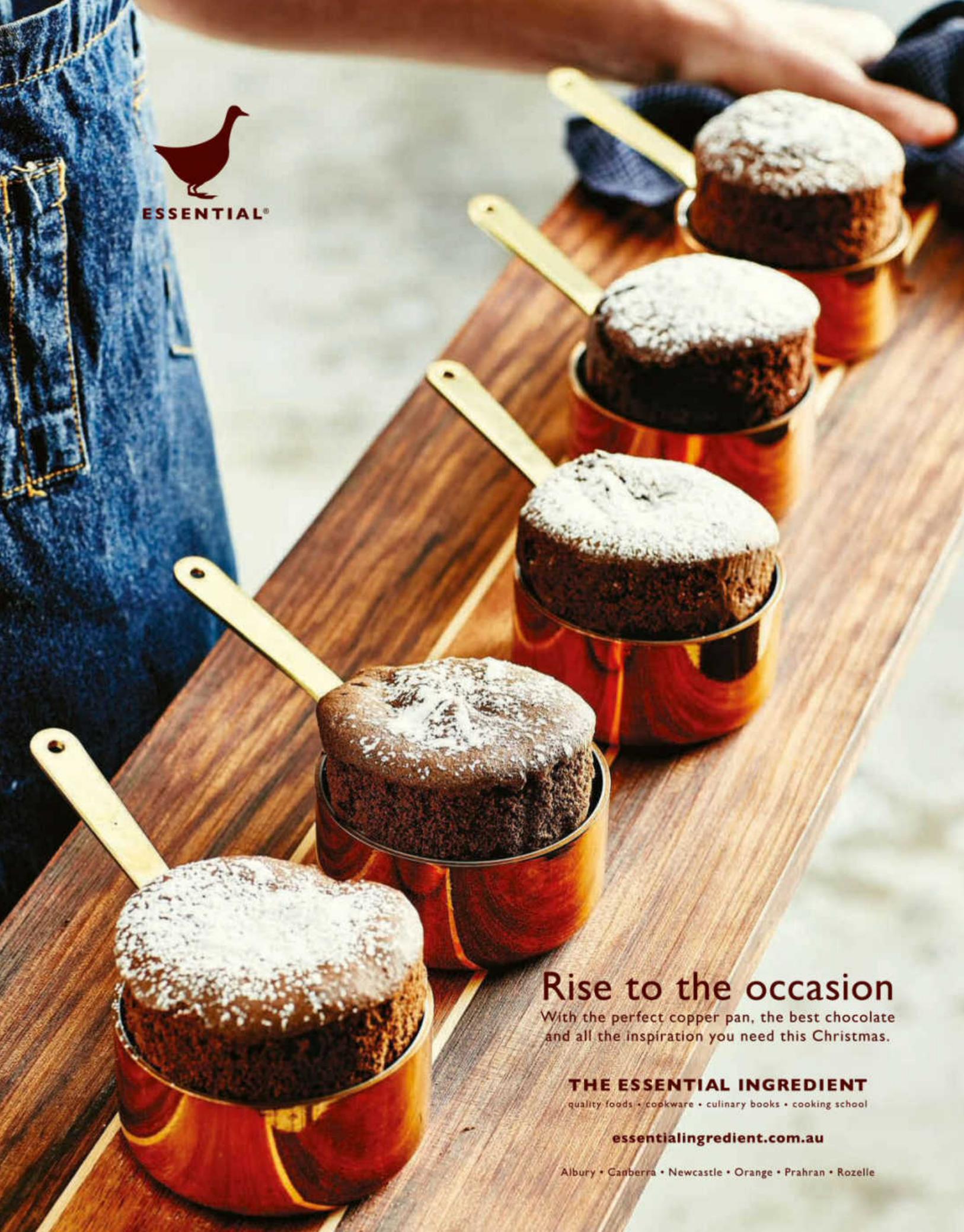


136 116 AND QUOTE M1510HGN

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*Keeping it light:
salad champion
Hetty McKinnon*

Photograph by Luisa Brimble.

LIVING

SEVEN SALADS TO CELEBRATE SPRING

ENTERTAINING

SUPER SALADS

For vegie queen **Hetty McKinnon**, salads are the main game. Here, she shares seven new recipes with *Australian House & Garden*.

On her bicycle, laden with hearty, flavour-packed, seasonal salads, a smiling Hetty McKinnon peddled good food around Sydney's Surry Hills. For four years she prepared honest, inventive fare in her tiny terrace house then biked it to local fans, shifting the concept of salads from leafy side dish to "shiny, happy, vegetable-charged main meal" along the way.

"At the heart of each dish is a core seasonal vegetable, around which a thoughtful culinary story is built," says the home cook and author of *Community, Salad Recipes from Arthur Street Kitchen* (Plum Books, \$35). Hetty relocated to New York with her family last year and now serves her salads at pop-up events around her Brooklyn, NY, neighbourhood, while blogging and sharing recipes at www.arthurstreetkitchen.com. Hetty's second cookbook is due for release in spring 2016.

Spiced edamame

Prep: 15 mins. Cooking: 5 mins. Serves 4-6 as an appetiser.

Heat 1 tbsp sunflower oil in a frypan over high heat. Add 1 small clove garlic, finely chopped, 1 long red chilli, finely chopped, 10g ginger, minced, and 1 tsp cumin seeds and stir-fry until garlic is just golden, about 1min. Add 3 cups (450g) thawed frozen edamame beans and fry a further 1min, then add 2 tsp sesame oil and a pinch of sea salt and cook a further 1min. Cool, then garnish with 2 tsp coriander leaves, 2 tsp each toasted black and white sesame seeds and sea salt.

ON THE MENU

"In spring I welcome the arrival of peas, from snow peas to sugar snap peas and garden peas. I love eating thinly sliced sugar snaps with shaved radish and a grain."





Mila plate and Salt & Pepper marble platter, Domayne. Vue tumbler, Myer. Table runner, stylist's own.

OPPOSITE / Mila bowl, Domayne. Tailor side plate and Impressions mini bowl, Freedom. Napkin, Country Road. **FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 236.**

Moghrabieh with harissa & lentils

Prep: 20 mins + 20 mins cooling. Cooking: 35 mins.

Serves 4-6 as a shared dish.

1/4 cup (60ml) extra-virgin olive oil

1 clove garlic, crushed

1 small red onion, finely diced

1 tbsp harissa paste, or to taste (available from good delis and Middle Eastern grocers)

2 cups (300g) canned diced tomatoes or passata

2 cups (720g) moghrabieh (pearl couscous, available

from good delis and Middle Eastern grocers)

1 cup (200g) black lentils

1/2 cup firmly packed flat-leaf parsley, finely chopped

1/2 cup firmly packed mint, finely chopped

1/4 cup thinly sliced spring onions

30g ricotta salata, coarsely grated (available from select Italian delis)

1 Heat 2 tbsp olive oil in a large saucepan over high heat, add garlic and onion and cook until onion begins to soften, about 3mins. Add harissa and stir until paste deepens in colour, about 1min. Add tomatoes or passata plus 2 1/2 cups (625ml) water and a big pinch of salt, stir, then add moghrabieh. Reduce heat to low and cook, covered and stirring occasionally, until moghrabieh is al dente and liquid has been absorbed, about 30mins. Transfer to a large bowl and allow to cool, about 15mins.

2 Meanwhile, bring another saucepan of salted water to the boil. Add lentils and cook until tender, about 20mins. Drain well and cool briefly, then add lentils, herbs and spring onions to moghrabieh. Drizzle with remaining oil, stir to combine and season to taste. Scatter with ricotta salata and garnish with a few extra whole parsley or mint leaves, if desired.

TIP If ricotta salata is unavailable, use firm fetta or pecorino. ►

Bloody Mary green bean salad

Prep: 25 mins + 10 mins marinating. Cooking: 15 mins.

Serves 4-6 as a shared dish.

1 small red onion, finely chopped

1/4 cup (60ml) sherry vinegar

700g heirloom baby tomatoes or cherry tomatoes, halved

5 celery hearts, coarsely chopped

400g green beans, trimmed

2 tsp olive oil

3 tsp Worcestershire sauce

1 tsp Tabasco

1/2 tsp celery salt

1/4 cup (60ml) extra-virgin olive oil

1 1/4 cups (150g) green olives, pitted and roughly chopped

1/2 cup firmly packed flat-leaf parsley, coarsely chopped

1 / Place onion and half the sherry vinegar in a large bowl; set aside to marinate for 10mins. Add tomatoes, celery and olives; toss to combine.

2 / Heat a grill pan to high heat. Toss green beans in olive oil and sprinkle over some sea salt, then grill beans, turning occasionally to cook all sides until tender and starting to char, about 4mins.

3 / Combine Worcestershire sauce, Tabasco and celery salt with remaining sherry vinegar in a bowl. Slowly whisk in extra-virgin olive oil, then pour over beans and toss well. Add bean mixture to tomato mixture, check seasoning and toss to combine. If you have the time, allow the salad to stand 30mins before serving.

'This wonderfully surprising salad can be made the day before and served either cold or at room temperature.' Hetty



Radish salad with green olive tapenade

Prep: 15 mins. Cooking: 10 mins. Serves 4-6 as an appetiser.

½ cup (70g) walnuts	1 tbsp flat-leaf parsley, coarsely chopped
1 bunch radishes, washed, trimmed and quartered	1 tbsp basil, coarsely chopped
Green olive tapenade	½ cup (50g) pitted green olives, coarsely chopped
1 clove garlic, coarsely chopped	¼ cup (60ml) extra-virgin olive oil
1 tbsp capers in vinegar, drained and rinsed	Lemon juice, to taste

1 / Preheat oven to 180°C (160°C fan). Place walnuts on an oven tray until light golden, about 7mins. Remove from oven and allow to cool. Reserve 2 tbsp for tapenade; coarsely chop remaining nuts. Set aside.

2 / To make tapenade, place garlic in a mortar and pestle and grind to a smooth paste. Add capers and herbs and pound until leaves break down, then add olives and reserved 2 tbsp walnuts; grind to a thick paste. (Alternatively, place all tapenade ingredients in a food processor and process to a thick paste.) Stir in olive oil all at once and lemon juice to taste; season with black pepper.

3 / Arrange radishes in a bowl with a spoonful of tapenade. Stir to coat, then scatter toasted walnuts over and finish with a pinch of sea salt.

Chargrilled asparagus, sugar snap peas with bulghur wheat & grilled lemon

Prep: 20 mins + 10 mins cooling. Cooking: 15 mins.

Serves 4-6 as a shared dish.

2 cups (500ml) vegetable stock	2½ tbsp extra-virgin olive oil
1½ cups (250g) medium-fine bulghur wheat	¼ cup firmly packed flat-leaf parsley leaves, torn
3 bunches asparagus, trimmed and halved crossways	¼ cup firmly packed mint leaves, torn
250g sugar snap peas, trimmed	100g firm feta, crumbled
1 lemon, halved	

1 / Place vegetable stock in a small saucepan; bring to the boil, then immediately remove from heat. Add bulghur wheat, stir, cover and stand for 15mins. Once liquid has been absorbed, remove lid and fluff grains with a fork, then set aside to cool slightly, about 10mins.

2 / Meanwhile, heat a barbecue or grill pan over high heat until smoking hot. Place asparagus, sugar snap peas and lemon in a bowl and drizzle with 2 tsp olive oil, season to taste and toss to coat. Grill vegetables in batches, turning often, until just tender and starting to char, about 3-5mins for greens, and 2mins for lemon. Transfer to a bowl, add bulghur, remaining olive oil and sea salt to taste; toss to combine. To serve, crumble feta over and garnish with charred lemon wedges.

TIP For a gluten-free option, substitute the bulghur wheat with quinoa or millet. ▶

TOP / Plate, MH Ceramics. Tumbler (with tapenade) and board, Country Road.

BOTTOM / Platter, Domayne. Tea towel, Bed Bath N Table. Royal Doulton side plates, David Jones. **OPPOSITE** White Basics Luxurious bowl, Maxwell & Williams. Heritage Botanic side plate, Myer. Fork and platter, Domayne.

FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 236.





Honey balsamic strawberry & mint galettes

Prep: 35 mins + resting + cooling. Cooking: 35 mins. Makes 6.

2 cups (300g) plain flour	2 punnets strawberries, washed, hulled and thickly sliced
175g cold unsalted butter, diced	2 tbsp balsamic vinegar
1/4 cup (55g) caster sugar	2 tbsp honey
120ml cold milk, plus extra for glazing	6 mint leaves, thinly sliced
1/4 cup firmly packed (55g) brown sugar	Whipped cream or vanilla ice-cream, to serve

1 / Place flour, butter, caster sugar and 1 tsp salt in a bowl. Rub butter into flour until you get pea-size pieces (little lumps of butter are fine); add milk and mix until a dough forms. Form into a ball and wrap in plastic wrap. Refrigerate at least 1hr, preferably overnight.

2 / Place strawberries in a bowl with vinegar and honey. Toss to combine, then allow to marinate for at least 1hr, preferably overnight.

3 / Preheat oven to 180°C (160°C fan). Divide dough into 6, then roll each piece to a 17cm round. Transfer pastry rounds to baking trays lined with baking paper and refrigerate until firmed slightly, about 20mins.

4 / Drain strawberries, reserving liquid, then spoon strawberries into the centre of each round, leaving a 3cm border. Fold pastry over strawberries, pleating to hold fruit in, then brush pastry with extra milk and sprinkle brown sugar all over each tart. Bake until golden, about 30mins.

5 / Meanwhile, heat reserved strawberry liquid in a saucepan over medium-high heat until reduced to a light syrup, about 3mins. Drizzle tartlets with syrup to taste, scatter with sliced mint leaves and serve with vanilla ice-cream or whipped cream.

TIP Keep pastry as cold as possible before baking. As the pastry cooks, the small lumps of butter will melt to produce light, flaky layers.

Salted peanut butter & chocolate blondie

Prep: 15 mins + cooling. Cooking: 45 mins. Serves 4-6.

110g butter	1 tsp vanilla extract
3/4 cup (180g) crunchy peanut butter	1 1/4 cups (185g) plain flour
2 cups firmly packed (440g) brown sugar	1 tsp baking powder
2 eggs, lightly beaten	1/4 cup (45g) dark chocolate buttons (53%-66% cocoa)
	Sea salt flakes

1 / Preheat oven to 180°C (160°C fan) and grease and line a 20cm square cake tin with baking paper.

2 / Melt butter and peanut butter together in a saucepan over medium heat; cool slightly, then add sugar, eggs and vanilla and stir to combine.

3 / Sift flour and baking powder into a large bowl; add to butter mixture along with chocolate buttons and 1 tsp sea salt then mix well.

4 / Pour batter into prepared cake tin, sprinkle with sea salt flakes and bake until a skewer inserted withdraws clean, about 30mins. Cool in tin, cut into 12 pieces. Store in an airtight container for up to 3 days. **H&G**

TOP / Salt & Pepper cheese paddle, Domayne. Side plates, David Jones. Spoon and milk jug, stylist's own. **BOTTOM** / Royal Doulton cake plate, David Jones. Teacups and side plate, Freedom. Platter, Domayne. Samantha Robinson Handmade Porcelain vase, Portobello Rose. **FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 236.**



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ADVICE

NEW WAYS WITH PAINT / ASK ROSE-MARIE / THE GREEN HOUSE / PROPERTY

PAINT

There's no better time spruce up your home – inside and out. Recent innovations mean paint is the go-to solution for almost every scenario, writes **Georgia Madden**.

Paint is still the quickest and most cost-effective way to freshen up your home. "Some surfaces, such as furniture, tiles, laminate and appliances, require a little extra preparation, but there really aren't too many things you can't transform with paint," says Kim Pearson, a Perth interior designer.

For inside and out, the options in specialist finishes are wide ranging, with many available in a full spectrum of colours. There are now formulations made specifically for use on baths, tiles and laminate cabinetry, kitchen benchtops, appliances, even slow-combustion stoves.

Fancy a glow-in-the-dark ceiling for a child's bedroom? White Knight makes a paint for that. Non-slip garage floor coatings sit beside specialist applications for metal gates, gutters and fences. Porter's Paints offers many beautiful specialist finishes, including Liquid Bronze, Instant Rust, Fresco and Venetian Glaze, which will add texture and character in a flash.

Manufacturers have invested heavily in research and development, and paint technology keeps on improving. Dulux has just added several new high-tech formulations to its popular Wash & Wear line-up, including Plus Super Tough, which allows walls to be scrubbed without damaging the paint film. Several paint companies (Taubmans and Resene among them) offer paints with antibacterial and anti-mould components, which are great for rooms regularly exposed to moisture. Look out, too, for paints that release low or no volatile organic compounds (VOCs).

"The biggest benefit of paint as a decorating tool is that it's affordable and

easy to apply yourself, often without the need for any professional help," says Mick Heanue, national paint buyer at Bunnings. "You'll find one-coat paints that can save you time and effort. Dulux's NeverMiss One Coat Ceiling White applies pink but dries white so you don't miss any spots; British Paints' InOne Ceiling Paint is designed to hide surface imperfections."

While tackling the task of painting your home can be a great cost-saving option, Pearson also notes a renewed appreciation for expertly applied hand-painted finishes, particularly on furniture and joinery. "There's something special about hand-finished pieces that are expertly brought to life with good-quality paint," she says. If you are thinking of restoring a piece of timber furniture yourself, pick up a pot of Annie Sloan Chalk Paint.

This spring, interior colour trends are leaning towards the greener end of the spectrum, says Andrea Lucena-Orr, colour planning and communications manager at Dulux. "Greens and neutrals with green undertones will be pivotal this season, and hues will range from earthy to bright," she says. Add a touch of pink to a green scheme and accessorise with metallic accents in warm gold and brass. ▶

Wonderful whites



Porter's Paints Milk

Taubmans Crisp White

Haymes Paint Minimalist 1

Dulux Antique White USA

Wattyl Classic White

INTERIOR PAINT TRENDS

The posy opposite shows the sweetest interior colours for the season: a harmonious selection of greens, browns, teal and soft pinks.

1 Interior Expressions in Fawn Lily, \$70/4L, Haymes Paint; 1800 033 431 or www.haymespaint.com.au.

2 Wash & Wear in Natural White, \$75/4L, Dulux; 132 525 or www.dulux.com.au.

3 Wash & Wear in Domino, \$89/4L, Dulux.

4 PURE Low Sheen in Faraway, \$82/4L, Murobond Paint; 1800 199 299 or www.murobond.com.au.

5 Wash & Wear in Grape Leaf, \$89/4L, Dulux.

6 Endure Interior in Southern Sea, \$62/4L, Taubmans; 131 686 or www.taubmans.com.au.

7 Interior Expressions in Taupe Shadow, \$70/4L, Haymes Paint.

8 PURE Low Sheen in Just White, \$82/4L, Murobond Paint.

9 Wash & Wear in Federal Fund, \$89/4L, Dulux.

10 Wash & Wear in Deduction, \$89/4L, Dulux.

11 Endure Interior in Really Rose, \$62/4L, Taubmans.

12 PURE Low Sheen in Crushed Shell, \$82/4L, Murobond Paint.



'This spring we'll see plenty of pinks, greens and blues emerge to welcome in the warmer days.' Shaynna Blaze, Taubmans



EXTERIOR PAINT TRENDS

Charcoals, greys and neutrals, teamed with white or contrasted with vibrant hues, are popular exterior choices.

- 1 Weathershield in Winter Waves, \$75/4L, Dulux.
- 2 Porter's Eggshell Acrylic in Newport Blue, \$95/4L, Porter's Paints.
- 3 Exterior Expressions in Minimalist 1, \$70/4L, Haymes Paint.
- 4 PURE Low Sheen in Urban Bridge, \$82/4L, Murobond Paint.
- 5 Porter's Eggshell Acrylic in Blue Spruce, \$95/4L, Porter's Paints.
- 6 Exterior Expressions in Water Jug, \$70/4L, Haymes Paint.
- 7 PURE Low Sheen in Molasses, \$82/4L, Murobond Paint.
- 8 Endure Exterior in Akimbo, \$83/4L, Taubmans.
- 9 PURE Low Sheen in Dry Stone, \$82/4L, Murobond Paint.
- 10 Weathershield in Bakos Blue, \$75/4L, Dulux.
- 11 Exterior Expressions in Heat, \$70/4L, Haymes Paint.
- 12 Weathershield in Rodham, \$75/4L, Dulux.
- 13 Endure Exterior in Bushrock, \$83/4L, Taubmans.
- 14 Weathershield in Spring Sprout, \$75/4L, Dulux.
- 15 Endure Exterior in Taupe Stone, \$67/4L, Taubmans.
- 16 Weathershield in Domino, \$75/4L, Dulux.



Colour your world

Shaynna Blaze shares her techniques for painting success:

- ✚ Use a full-strength colour on two adjoining walls to create a nook, painting the remaining walls in a half-strength of the same colour for balance.
- ✚ In period homes, consider adding picture rails in line with the top of the windows. Paint a dark or rich colour from the floor to the picture rail and the remainder of the wall and ceiling in white. This visually extends the width of the ceiling, making the room feel larger and airier.
- ✚ To give a room a tailored look while enhancing its dimensions, paint wall stripes. Horizontal stripes make a narrow room appear wider; vertical stripes make a low ceiling appear higher.

◀ Shaynna Blaze, Taubmans' colour creative director, concurs. "We'll see fun yet sophisticated greens, pinks and blues emerge to welcome in the warmer days. These will range from soft blush through to deep teal."

When it comes to exteriors, subtle and sophisticated neutrals are here to stay, says Wendy Rennie, colour and concept manager at Haymes Paint. "All shades of grey are popular, especially teamed with crisp white," she says. "This combination works on most homes."

For Lucena-Orr, the trend towards darker neutrals offers homeowners the opportunity to have fun with contrasts. "Greys, charcoals and neutrals look fantastic teamed with splashes of vibrant colour on trims and the front door. Go for red, orange, teal or green."

For the greatest chance of success choose the best paint you can afford, says Melanie Stevenson, marketing manager at Porter's Paints. "Cheap paint is a big mistake – it doesn't give you the best coverage, it smells, it's sticky and it builds up on the brush," she says. "You really do get what you pay for."

H&G

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WARWICK

ask an expert



Our resident interiors expert **Rose-Marie Hillier**, gives black and white advice for an easy bathroom makeover and shares her favourite occasional tables.

Q *We recently bought a 1980s home that we love, but the bathroom is dated. It has white wall tiles and a row of coloured seashell tiles stretching around the room that I'd like to paint over. I'm hoping that with a few cost-effective changes I can turn it into a black-and-white scheme. I'd also like to replace the old taps. Could you please give me some tips? Sarah Gooding, via email*

A A black and white bathroom is the height of sophistication; in fact, chrome has moved aside to allow black to have its moment. As such, you will be able to choose from a huge variety of contemporary bathroom fixtures and fittings that will instantly and inexpensively update your room, from tapware to heated towel rails. Take a look at the matt black tapware at Meir. Or visit your local Reece showroom; you'll find many products in black. Bath towel manufacturers have joined the black trend too. Aura by Tracie Ellis has a bold, wide black-and-white striped towel that's very swish. And don't forget to revamp your vanity top with some new accessories such as a pretty soap dispenser. I love the Morgan & Finch Paris collection of classic stoneware at Bed Bath N' Table. Recolouring your decorative wall tiles is easy with White Knight tile paint from Bunnings.

www.meir.com.au; www.reece.com.au; www.whiteknightpaints.com.au.



WRITE IN

Send your question, with your name and address, to Rose-Marie via H&G Advice, GPO Box 4088, Sydney, NSW 1028, or email h&g@bauer-media.com.au.



Do you have a question for Rose-Marie? Use the free *viewa* app, scan this page and follow the prompts.

OCCASIONAL TABLES

A small table that is practical and fun and easily moves from room to room is immensely valuable. Here's my pick of those with personality plus.

Brass Peacock (1)

An ideal accent piece for the witty sophisticate, this Jonathan Adler-designed gleaming sculptural conversation starter features a 2.5cm-thick glass top. \$5295, Coco Republic; www.cocorepublic.com.au.

Grand Illusion

Designed by John Brauer for Essey, the whimsical moulded acrylic table is true to its name – the design gives the illusion of a round cloth-covered table that hovers above the ground. \$395. For stockists, go to www.designergiftsformen.com.au.

Copper Top (2)

So chic! This petite table with shiny copper top is a trendy addition to any space. The metal legs reference traditional wire coat hangers. \$230, Domayne; www.domayneonline.com.au.

Flore (3)

Palm Springs retro style will be all the rage this summer and the Messina Collection Flore gets it right. Featuring a brown marble top and black metal base, you'll love it in a sunroom or on the verandah. \$439, Exhibit Interiors; www.exhibit.net.au.

Liquid Moon

The funky Liquid Moon by Louise Olsen resin side table is a knockout (and features 10 legs!). Without a doubt, a statement piece. \$2800, Dinosaur Designs; www.dinosaurdesigns.com.au.

Grange Ermitage

Classic meets zany in this chic purple table, which has fluted legs with brass feet, silver and gold detailing and a painted cherrywood top. \$2585, Domo; www.domo.com.au.

Alistar (4)

I love this cute and practical piece. Two nesting tables fit together in a demilune shape, with an iron base with distressed brass finish and mirrored top. \$534, Pottery Barn; www.potterybarn.com.au.

Dorado (5)

With its hardwood top and five-sided base featuring a bronzed metal leaf pattern, Baker Furniture's Dorado gives the gold touch to a decadent scheme. \$5286, Cavit & Co; www.cavitco.com.au.

Antique Burmese Colonial Campaign (6)

This TH5119 antique colonial-style teak table from Burma is totally on-trend for an eclectic decorating look. \$2000, Orient House; www.orienthouse.com.au.

Fornasetti

My fave piece from Fornasetti is the slightly mad ceramic limited-edition Tavolo Architettonico pedestal table. \$2600, Macleay on Manning; www.macleayonmanning.com.



1



2



3



4



5



6



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H&G ADVICE



There's much buzz about the health of our honeybees – and for good reason, writes **Sarah Pickette**.

Where would we be without bees? It's a question that's being asked more frequently, owing to the imminent threat of a parasitic mite that could devastate Australia's bee population.

"The arrival of the Varroa mite will be disastrous not just for beekeepers, but for all Australians," says Doug Purdie, author and co-owner of The Urban Beehive, a business that runs courses on backyard beekeeping. "We rely on the European honeybee to pollinate many of the foods we eat daily. So far we have managed to keep this mite out of Australia but it's only a matter of time."

According to Landcare Australia, about 65 per cent of our food crops would disappear without bees – they play a crucial role in pollinating our fruits, vegetables, nuts and berries. The Varroa mite feeds mainly on the larvae and pupae of European honeybees, causing malformation and weakening in the population and transmitting harmful viruses. Falling bee numbers have already decreased pollination levels across Europe and the US, says Purdie.

"The European honeybee, *Apis mellifera*, is absolutely vital to our environment and our food security," says

fifth-generation commercial beekeeper James Kershaw, who has been involved with Landcare Australia's campaign to stop the Varroa mite reaching our shores. "A decline in the Australian honeybee population would result in less pollination of our food crops at a primary-production level, but also in the backyard vegie patch."

To help the local population thrive, Purdie is encouraging homeowners to make their gardens more bee-friendly. "I'd like to see gardeners putting in more flowering plants. Bees love lavender, borage and rosemary in particular," he says. Keep pesticide use to a minimum too.

Landcare Australia is currently raising funds to place 378 hive traps in ports where the Varroa mite will most likely first appear. These hives will be under constant surveillance and government apiary officers will be alerted in the event infected bees are detected.

"I don't think we can underestimate the seriousness of this threat," says Purdie. "Landcare Australia and the beekeeping industry are doing a great job of raising awareness, but the government must step in to protect them before it's too late."

Find out more and donate to Landcare Australia's bee appeal at www.protectourbees.org.au.

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property home show



If you're all set for a spring sale, follow these basic rules to maximise your price in today's hot property market, writes **Harvey Grennan**.



Illustration by Domenic Bahmann.

SPRUCE UP

Real estate agent Stuart Reeder's tips for presenting your home to its best advantage:

- ✚ Tidy up the front garden; first impressions count.
- ✚ Kitchens and bathrooms are the main areas buyers are interested in. Ensure yours are spotless.
- ✚ De-clutter. Pack away as many extraneous items as you can.
- ✚ Open the curtains and let in the light. Place vases of fresh flowers around the home.
- ✚ If you have a pool make sure it is crystal clear.

Spring has sprung, so it's officially the best time to put residential property on the market – and achieve the best price. So what do you need to do in order to present your home in the best light to buyers?

"You don't get a second chance to make a good impression and impressions count in achieving a premium price for your property," says Ray White Broadbeach agent, Stuart Reeder. "It's amazing how quickly purchasers react to an inspection. Your home is either 'on their list' or not after that first viewing," he says.

Agents in the major cities' inner suburbs now routinely recommend vendors freshen up their homes with a quick paint job and professional styling before going on the market – and they have people on hand to do those jobs at short notice. Choose light, neutral colours as strong colours are not to everyone's taste.

Styling usually involves removing your furniture and replacing it with a professionally arranged package of furniture, bedlinen, mirrors, lamps, pictures, rugs – all to give your home a modern, open look. Styling services are particularly useful

when selling an investment property that is unoccupied or if your property is looking a bit tired and worn. Styling can cost from \$3000 to \$5000 or more but the emotional impact it can have on buyers is incredible. Agents credit styling with adding hundreds of thousands of dollars to some home sales.

You should repair any items that are obviously in need of attention: dripping taps, sticking doors, broken light fittings, loose door handles, rotten floorboards, leaky gutters and torn flyscreens. The cost of fixing them is probably less than the discount that could be demanded by a buyer.

Ensure there are no odours that could be off-putting for others. Don't smoke in the house and keep pets outside. Stained carpets and soft furnishings can be steam-cleaned relatively inexpensively. If you live in a noisy area or on a shady street ask the agent to book inspection times when it is quieter or brighter. If it's cold, turn on the heater or light a fire.

One final piece of advice: You are not part of the property presentation. Make yourself scarce during inspections and leave the agent to their job.

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Styling by Kayla Gex. Photograph by Will Horner.

SHOPPING

50 UNDER \$150 / 9 BY DESIGN / BUYER'S GUIDE

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\$150

OUTWARD BOUND

These bright and beautiful homewares have
earnt their place out on the patio or in the garden.
Get set for sunnier days ahead.

STYLING KAYLA GEX / PHOTOGRAPHY WILL HORNER

FROM LEFT / Lhasa recycled-plastic outdoor rug in Black & White (120x179cm), \$65, Terrace. This... Design & Living bamboo stool, \$69, Scandinalia. Diamond-cut acrylic tumbler, \$28/four, Citta Design. Potted jade plant, \$40, and potted baby's tears, \$25, Poho Flowers. Sophia leather espadrilles, \$119, Country Road. Nippig 2015 rattan lounger, \$129, Ikea. Tropical Leaf polyester lumbar cushion cover in Key Lime, \$35, Bungalow Living. Scatter4 Sunbrella fabric cushion in Charcoal/White, \$105, Satara. Peace lily, \$34, Squat Euro Design poly-rattan pot, \$45, birds nest fern, \$10, and Eden Green Earth plastic trough, \$26, all Bunnings. Finley cement urn, \$21, Domayne. Runnen acacia and polypropylene decking tiles, \$30/pack of nine, Ikea. Flowers from Poho Flowers (throughout). Wall and background throughout painted Wash & Wear 101 in High Point, \$89/4L, Dulux. **FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 236.**



See how these shots were
set up. Use the free **viewa**
app and scan this page.





\$44 / Galvanised-steel six-pack bottle caddy, Pottery Barn.



\$150, \$90 / Handmade wood and stoneware wall hangings, \$150 (left), and \$90, Woodfolk.



\$5 / Handmade earthenware herb labels, \$5/each, Caroline C.



\$55 / Greengate ceramic jug in Joyce Yellow, Petalura Eatery.



\$17, \$27 / Variopinte enamel side plate, \$17, and dinner plates, \$27/each, Citta Design.

BEST
BUY
\$27



\$10, \$20 / Vintage Flower melamine cups, \$10/each, and bowls, \$20/each, Outliving.



\$110, \$69 / This... Design & Living bamboo stools, \$110 (70cm) and \$69 (35cm), Scandinalia.



\$35 / Polyester lumbar cushion covers in Oasis Palm (top) and Tropical Leaf (42x31cm), \$35/each, Bungalow Living.



\$80 / Vintage tennis racquets, \$80/each, Alfresco Emporium. ▶

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\$145 / Fade-resistant canvas children's swing, Swingz n Thingz.



\$49 / Wet terry-towelling washable cosmetic bags, \$49/each, Bellamee.



\$50, \$9 / Sloane glass jug, \$50, and tumblers, \$9/each, Freedom.



\$78 / Linen and leather kneeling pad and gardening gloves set, Hardtofind.



\$90 / Desert perforated-metal lanterns, \$90/each, Domayne.



\$20 / Fruit Slice vinyl-backed coir doormats, \$20/each, Freedom.



\$129 / Mickie leather sandals, Country Road.



\$35 / Essey Fly Fly leather and birch fly swatters, \$35/each, Top3 by Design.



\$29 / Fade-resistant canvas peg bags, \$29/each, Swingz n Thingz.



\$30 / The Jug AcraGlass 1.2L iced tea jugs, \$30/each, T2.



\$50, \$30 / Great Outdoors soy-wax candles in glass canisters, \$50 (large), and \$30 (small), Domayne.



\$50 / Loko Futon canvas cushions (50x50cm), \$50/each, Kas Australia.



ON TRAY from left Small Square porcelain platter in Ash, \$35, Mud Australia. Variopinte enamel side plates in Pearl Grey, \$17/each, and Diamond-cut acrylic tumbler, \$28/four, Citta Design. Ourlieu Pineapple paper napkins, \$10/pack of 20, Kollab. Ekobo bamboo three-piece children's cutlery set, \$19, Top3 by Design. The Pulp acrylic tray, \$45, Hardwick & Cesko. Bamboo folding chair, \$89, Alfresco Emporium.



\$29, \$44 / Rope melamine servers, \$29/pair, and Rope melamine platter, \$44, Pottery Barn.



\$40 / Colapz eco-friendly plastic collapsible watering can/bucket (7L), Independence Studios. ►

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\$132 / Amalfi two-person picnic set in hand-woven wicker basket, Satara.



\$95 / Enamel stove-top kettle, Heaven in Earth.



\$150 / Agate Slice set of four coasters, Eco Chic.



\$85 / Solar-powered metal garden lights, \$85/each, Terrace.



\$129 / Metal wall-mounted pot planter with 18 pots (82x52cm), Kush Living.



\$23, \$45 / TineK Home Flower ceramic bowl (10cm), \$23, and Moroccan ceramic trays (25cm), \$45/each, Scandinalia.



\$50, \$46 / Cyclone Sculpt hedge shears, \$50, Bunnings. Laura Ashley Kimono rubber clogs, \$46, Kush Living.



\$65 / Greengate ceramic cutting board, Simply Sweet Home.



\$21 / Finley cement urn (20cm diameter), Domayne.



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9 BY DESIGN

STOOLS

1 / Sari Casa mangowood stool with rattan seat, \$259, Oz Design Furniture; www.ozdesignfurniture.com.au. **2** / Chip ash stool with polyester seat, \$549, Blu Dot; www.bludot.com.au. **3** / Jade American-oak stool with leather seat, \$1050, Zuster; www.zuster.com.au. **4** / Saltram iron stool with sheesham wood seat, \$269, Freedom; www.freedom.com.au. **5** / Jules American-oak stool, \$720, Anaca Studio; www.anacastudio.com.au. **6** / Dojo timber stool, \$49, Fantastic Furniture; www.fantasticfurniture.com.au. **7** / Hardwood stool with marble seat, \$299, Harpers Project; www.harpersproject.com. **8** / District 8 Buck metal stool with suede seat, \$349, Domayne; www.domayne.com.au. **9** / Ross Didier Fable American-oak bar chair, \$623, Cafe Culture+Insite; www.cafecultureinsite.com.au. Skiff powder-coated aluminium outdoor table with laminate top, \$1299, Blu Dot. Vintage White Wash wool-cotton rug (314x201cm), \$5700, Cadrys; www.cadrys.com.au. Wall painted Endure in Somber Sky, \$40/L, Taubmans; www.taubmans.com.au. Flowers from Poho Flowers; www.pohoflowers.com.au.

H&G

9 BY DESIGN

OUTDOOR LIGHTS



1 / Modo Luce Icaro Ball wire **outdoor light**, from \$1495, Interstudio; www.interstudio.com.au. 2 / Il Fanale II Patio brass and copper outdoor **pendant light**, \$1268, LightCo; www.lightco.com.au. 3 / Maiori Le Lamp Paris aluminium solar **outdoor light** with batyline shade, Obodo Contemporary Furniture; obodo.com.au. 4 / Friends and Founders La Lampe powder-coated metal **floor lamp**, \$1195, Interstudio. 5 / FontanaArte Koho polycarbonate rechargeable **outdoor lamp**, \$818, Café Culture+Insitu; www.cafecultureinsitu.com.au. 6 / Clyde copper and rosewood **outdoor light**, \$1170, Robert Plumb; www.robertplumb.com.au. 7 / Eva Solo SunLight frosted-glass and aluminium solar **spike light**, \$99, Top3 by Design; www.top3.com.au. 8 / Harbour copper **bollard**, \$179, Beacon Lighting; www.beaconlighting.com.au. 9 / Upplid powder-coated steel **outdoor wall light**, \$40, Ikea; www.ikea.com.au.

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Rugby league legend Matt Cooper is constantly on the go, juggling parenting duties and work with modelling and red carpet appearances.



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Matt Cooper

MATT'S DAY LOOKS LIKE THIS...

9am



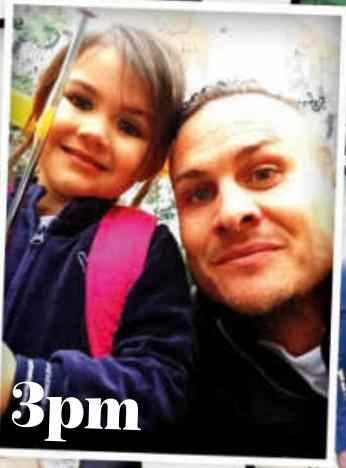
7am



7pm



1pm



3pm



8pm



7am: Matt's day starts early, before he sits down and has porridge for breakfast with his two girls, Indie and Starr. He then rushes around helping them get ready for school.

9am: After dropping off the girls, Matt jumps back in the car for a short drive to work. At Dragonfit Training Centre, Matt meets with the fitness trainers before getting behind the desk to catch up on some emails and check in with clients.

1pm: Around lunch time, Matt heads to a photo shoot where he ditches the trainers and gym gear and gets into model mode.

3pm: Matt picks up Starr from day care. Starr is excited to show her Dad what she's been up to that day.

7pm: Matt and the family are at home for the evening, and they cook dinner together; the favourite meal is lamb and vegetable soup. Once the girls are ready for bed, Matt loves to read them a book before they go to sleep.

8pm: Dad duties complete, Matt and wife Dallas get ready and head out to a movie premiere.

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Sika Design Georgia Garden Colonial teak table, \$2750, and Affaire Sofie rattan and synthetic fibre chairs, \$395/each, Domo; (03) 9277 8888 or www.domo.com.au.

BUYER'S GUIDE

OUTDOOR FURNITURE

Salute the sun with all-weather dining and lounging furniture that offers beauty plus durability, writes **Georgia Madden**.

The sun is out, the garden is coming to life and there are plenty of reasons to be excited about the latest in outdoor furniture. Showrooms are filled with seating and dining options that are deeply comfortable, supremely durable and beautifully designed.

"We've seen a real surge in options, styles and finishes in the outdoor furniture market in recent years," says Myles Broad, principal designer at Eckersley Garden Architecture in Melbourne. "It wasn't so long ago that fabric-covered pieces had to be taken indoors immediately after use ▶



IN THE HOT SEAT

Andrew Thornton Hick, interior designer and creative director of WA furniture retailer Ultimo Interiors, delivers his verdict on the hottest outdoor looks from this year's Milan Furniture Fair:

✚ **Platform styling.** "When it comes to outdoor trends, this one was the unanimous leader. Great examples include Varaschin's Barcode sofa and Royal Botania's Vigor sofa, both of which have a timber platform extending beyond the sofa upholstery, which can double as anything from extra seating to a side table."

✚ **Slab style.** "Super-solid beams in tables and benches add drama and substance to large open-plan spaces."

✚ **Neutral powder-coated finishes** in colours such as pearl grey and sand. "They are taking over from the harsh contrasts of black and white of recent years, providing a softer and more inviting look."

◀ and wicker went rotten after as little as 12 months in the weather. Technology has given us better options and that's reflected in the current trends, whether it's high-density quick-drain foam, waterproof fabrics or UV-stabilised plastics."

However you like to relax outdoors, you'll find a piece of furniture to suit. For lounging, take your pick from low-slung sofas as comfortable as any you would find indoors or modular arrangements that can be reconfigured to suit a couple or a crowd. There are day beds generous enough for two, sculptural recliners that follow the contours of your body, and coffee tables with height-adjustable surfaces that allow you to dine at a comfortable level without compromising the cool, low aesthetic.

"Low-slung outdoor furniture is on trend," says Ming Trang, general manager of Parterre's contemporary showrooms. "There's something appealingly casual about it, and we're finding that as spaces become smaller, people use their modular sofa for dining, too."

If you have room for a separate dining area, you'll find plenty of choices. Bench seating is giving way to dining chairs that are upholstered or moulded to the body for maximum comfort. Outdoor dining tables are less rustic, more chic.

"The furniture we buy for outdoor areas is becoming lighter and sleeker in appearance as consumers look for designs that won't dominate an open space," says Fabio Fanuli, director of retailer Fanuli. "Designers are pushing the boundaries of

technology, using new materials to create products that look fantastic and fulfil today's need for smart, streamlined form." Materials of the moment include powder-coated aluminium, polycarbonates and acrylics, he says. The common factor is they're all durable and easy to care for.

That's not to say timber has lost any of its appeal, says furniture designer Mark Tuckey. "The raw, organic timber aesthetic is timeless, and because it's a natural product it works really well outdoors."

Because it's fashioned from what are usually rectilinear raw materials, timber outdoor furniture can present as quite masculine, says landscape designer William Dangar, owner of Robert Plumb. "That's not a bad thing," he says, "but I have been excited to see some softer lines being introduced. I suspect that's the direction we're headed."

When it comes to colour, we're seeing a softer palette. Look-at-me brights have given way to muted greys, inky blues and creams, particularly in larger investment pieces. "Smaller pieces, such as dining chairs, provide the bright accents, in colours such as coral or lime," says Fanuli.

While looks, budget and scale are important, so is your interior style, says Matthew Cantwell, director of Sydney landscape design firm Secret Gardens. "Your outdoors should be an extension of the style inside your home. Invest as much time and energy into decorating your outdoor areas as you would a living area. You'll use the space more, making the investment worth it." ▶

Take the seat: a word from the design-wise

First and foremost, make sure your outdoor seating is comfortable, says Myles Broad. "If you're going for wire chairs, choose quality cushions made of high-density foam and durable Sunbrella fabric." And think carefully before building in seating. "Banquette-style seating photographs well but can be restrictive if you want to do anything else with the space," he says. Andrew Thornton Hick advises: "Moveable bench seating is fine if you also have a lounge space, but if not, comfortable dining chairs with backs are a must". He also advocates careful consideration of shade providers. "The options are now vast, including motorised, concealed and portable shades. Wall-mounted umbrellas are brilliant space-savers."



OUTDOOR SOFAS

GRID 2.5-SEATER OUTDOOR SOFA, \$1999

With its bold upholstery, faux timber and synthetic rope backing, this sofa brings a nautical feel to an outdoor entertaining area. Its foam cushioning is covered in all-weather Sunbrella acrylic fabric. Domayne; www.domayneonline.com.au.



BREEZE 3.5-SEATER OUTDOOR SOFA, FROM \$4620

An elegant piece covered in mildew-, chlorine- and salt-resistant polypropylene in a choice of colours (Grey is shown). Quick-drying cushions sit on a zinc-plated steel frame with timber armrests. Tait; (03) 9419 7484 or www.madebytait.com.au.



JASPER 3-SEATER OUTDOOR SOFA, \$5530

Stylish and supremely comfortable, this design offers a galvanised and powder-coated steel frame, hand-woven base, supportive seating and cushions in waterproof, UV-resistant acrylic fabric. King Living; 1300 546 438 or www.kingliving.com.



B&B ITALIA SPRINGTIME OUTDOOR SOFA, FROM \$15,940

Constructed on an aluminium frame and with hardy waterproof fabrics (one with a soft fleece finish), this sofa is designed by Jean-Marie Massaud. Also available in acid green and anthracite. Space; (02) 8339 7588 or www.spacefurniture.com.au.



SUNLOUNGERS

JACOB SUNLOUNGER, FROM \$229

Handy wheels make this sunlounger perfect for chasing the shade. This piece is part of a collection that includes a sofa and dining settings. Cushion (\$79) sold separately. Harvey Norman; 1300 464 278 or www.harveynorman.com.au.



TORQUAY SUNLOUNGER, \$349

Stylish and affordable, this lounger would work equally well on a balcony or by the pool. The frame is constructed from lightweight aluminium, with polyurethane mesh panels to support your body. Freedom; 1300 135 588 or www.freedom.com.au.



CURVILIS SUNLOUNGER, \$1895

A striking form in plantation teak, with polyester mesh that's resistant to UV, mould and tearing. Bonus features include a multi-positional backrest and handy slide-out tray for drinks. Jati; 1300 306 869 or www.jati.com.au.



SUMMER POOL LOUNGER, \$3663

A chic, fuss-free model in New Guinea rosewood. The quick-drying foam cushions are covered in durable Sunbrella fabric and the headrest can be adjusted to six positions for maximum comfort. Robert Plumb; (02) 9316 9066 or robertplumb.com.au.



OUTDOOR CHAIRS

HÖGSTEN ARMCHAIR, \$129

Get the woven look without the high price or maintenance of rattan, in a playful design crafted from sturdy powder-coated steel and polyethylene. Ikea; (02) 8020 6641 or www.ikea.com.au.



LUCY DINING CHAIR, \$495

There's a charming, traditional English-country feel to this powder-coated aluminium chair with resin weave and fade-resistant seat cushion. Cotswold Furniture; 1800 677 047 or www.cotswoldfurniture.com.au.



PUCKET CHAIR, \$737

A sleek upholstered seat that transitions easily from outside to indoors, with a stainless-steel frame and quality foam cushioning in Sunbrella fabric. Satara; (03) 9587 4469 or www.satara.com.au.



POINT ARC ARMCHAIR, \$1325

Curvy and comfortable, this tub style chair features teak legs, a seat back in synthetic fibre that can withstand water and UV, and a seat cushion in all-weather acrylic that also resists stains. Domo; (03) 9277 8888 or www.domo.com.au.



OUTDOOR DINING TABLES

ADELAIDE DINING TABLE, \$2669

Seat up to eight guests in style at this smart-looking, Danish-designed table, which pairs a high-pressure laminate top in white with angled legs in contrasting eucalyptus. BoConcept; (02) 9437 0066 or www.boconcept.com.au.



HARBOUR DINING TABLE, \$2499

With a generous 180cm diameter, this tripod-legged table with white glass top can seat eight comfortably. Its star feature is a lazy Susan centre. Matching carver chairs are available. Domayne; www.domayneonline.com.au.



BREMER DINING TABLE, \$2999

The consummate marriage of rustic and contemporary styles, this teak table will easily accommodate up to eight people for intimate dinners or, with the side panels extended, a festive party of 12. Eco Outdoor; 1300 131 413 or www.ecooutdoor.com.au.



KRISTALIA SUSHI DINING TABLE, \$3990

A contemporary Italian design with anodised aluminium legs and an extendable aluminium-laminate top with an easy-clean, scratch-resistant nanotech finish. It can seat up to 10. Fanuli; (02) 9908 2660 or www.fanuli.com.au.

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From page 219

CLOCKWISE FROM FRONT TineK Home Flower ceramic bowl, \$23, [Scandinalia](http://scandinalia.com.au). Arcadia cotton table runner in Black (33x150cm), \$30, [Rapee](http://rapee.com.au). Artesano Original French porcelain stick dish, \$79, [Villeroy & Boch](http://villeroy-boch.com). Small wooden stool, \$75, [Alfresco Emporium](http://alfrescoemporium.com). Antique Chinese wooden rice measure, \$40, [Few and Far](http://fewandfar.com). Sloane glass tumblers, \$9/each, [Freedom](http://freedom.com.au). Rope melamine dinner plates, \$14/each, [Pottery Barn](http://potterybarn.com). Seaforth acacia wood placemats, \$7/each, [Freedom](http://freedom.com.au). Jack cotton tablecloth in White (150x230cm), \$60, [Rapee](http://rapee.com.au).

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On our cover

This inviting living room by interior designer Susi Leeton opens our Top 50 Rooms feature. Photograph by Shannon McGrath. To see more, turn to page 63. Don't forget to vote for your favourite!



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MORE PICS OF THE VIEW
– AND ARCHITECTURE –
OF THIS FAB HOME,
PAGE 81.

IN THIS ISSUE

Video tours Designer Robbie Nicol and architect Mark Pearse take us inside their Top 50 rooms, pages 84 and 97.

Vote & win Warwick Fabrics is giving away a sofa package, valued at \$5165, to one reader. To be in the running, vote for your favourite Top 50 room, page 127.

Rug competition Win a \$2200 Armadillo&Co rug, page 136.

Behind the scenes Watch the magic happen on our shopping shoot, *Outward Bound*, page 220.

Ask away Interiors expert Rose-Marie Hillier solves your decorating dilemmas, page 212.

Garden of the Year competition Find out exactly what we're looking for in each garden category, page 191.

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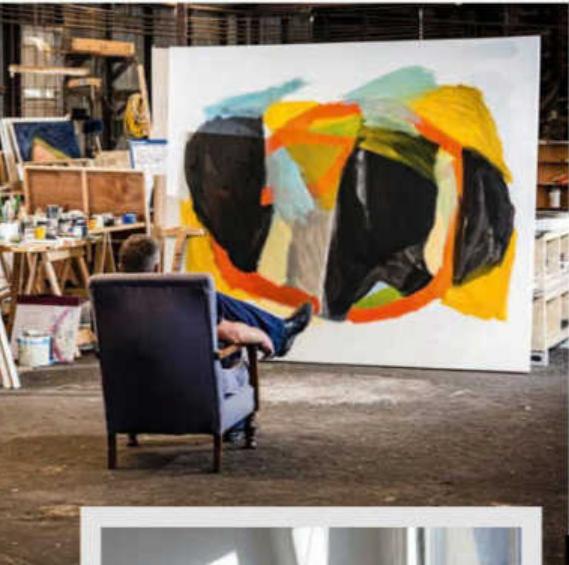
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It's always intriguing to visit Marie Hagerty's Canberra studio. She's gearing up for her October exhibition.
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#collage #blackandwhite



Detail of Kate Rohde's artwork for The Diggers Club at Heronswood.
#katerohde #heronswood #resin
#seeds #plants



The painter's palette: Philip Wolfhagen's show preparations. @karenwoodburygallery
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Stanislava Pinchuk's (aka Miso) beautiful studio light as she prepares for her September show. #stanislavapinchuk
#miso #paper



Marie Hagerty's collage figures stand on one of the studio's tables.
#collage #vintage #models
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A sneak peek at Lara Merrett's work in progress for Spring 1883 Art Fair at the Establishment Hotel, Sydney, 9-12 September. #laramerrett #spring1883
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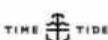


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